

Muslim leaders visit Iran

NICOSIA (R) — A delegation of Muslim leaders trying to prevent war in the Gulf arrived in Tehran Wednesday after visiting Saudi Arabia and Iraq. The group's spokesman, Mohammad Abdul Rahman Khalifah, spiritual leader of the Muslim Brotherhood in Jordan, condemned "American aggression" in the Gulf and said the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia was "under attack by foreigners." Tehran Radio said, "America and its allies want to take advantage of the vacuum resulting from discord among regional governments to reach their sinister goals," said Khalifah. Iran has denounced Iraq's invasion and the massing of U.S. and other foreign forces in the region. It called with Syria on Tuesday for regional security system to protect Gulf states. The delegation, from 10 Arab and Asian countries, met Saudi King Fahd and members of Kuwait's toppled government in Saudi Arabia last week before going to Iraq.

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Kuwait dinar move limited

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Wednesday announced that the exchange of Kuwaiti dinars for Iraqi dinars is confined to the currency found inside Iraqi territory and not abroad. In its announcement CBJ said that contacts with Al Rafidein Bank (an Iraqi bank) in Amman revealed that, in accordance with instructions from the Iraqi Central Bank in Baghdad, the exchange involves only Kuwaiti dinars found in Iraq and owned by those living inside Iraqi territory. The exchange process will end by Oct. 6. Iraq on Sunday gave holders of Kuwaiti dinars 12 days to exchange the currency at a one-to-one basis for Iraqi dinars. The Iraqi statement on Sunday said that the decision was taken after the merger of Iraq and Kuwait and to prevent duplication in exchanging both currencies. After Oct. 6, the statement said, the Kuwaiti dinar will be an illegal currency.

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King receives Yemeni, Mexican messages on Gulf

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received a message from Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh dealing with the Gulf crisis and Arab endeavours to reach a political settlement for it within the Arab framework. The message was delivered by the Yemeni minister of culture who was received by King Hussein at the Royal Court in the presence of Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh and the Yemeni ambassador to Jordan. The King also Wednesday received an envoy from the Mexican president who conveyed to him a message dealing with the Gulf crisis. The meeting was attended by Abu Odeh.

Crown Prince meets Genscher, Hurd

NEW YORK (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday held, separate meetings with West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher and British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd who are leading their countries' delegations to the United Nations General Assembly sessions. Prince Hassan reviewed with the two officials the Gulf crisis and the latest developments in the region. The meeting were attended by Deputy Prime Minister Al Qasem and Jordan's representative to the United Nations. Prince Hassan was the guest of honour at a lunch banquet hosted by the U.N. secretary general.

U.S. helicopter sinks in Red sea

DAHRAN (R) — A U.S. navy helicopter sank in the Red Sea Wednesday, two hours after making an emergency landing in the water but all 17 people on board were rescued, a U.S. military statement said. The SH-3H Sea King helicopter was on a routine training flight from the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy with four crew members and 13 passengers. The helicopter floated about 5,000 metres from the aircraft carrier but sank before the navy could recover it. The John F. Kennedy is in the Red Sea enforcing United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

Pakistani premier in Muscat

MUSCAT (AP) — Pakistani Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi arrived Wednesday on the first leg of a Gulf tour, his second this month, to discuss the Gulf crisis. He delivered a message to Oman's ruler, Sultan Qaboos, from President Ghulam Ishaq Khan. But officials gave no details of its contents. Earlier this month, Jatoi visited Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. On this trip he will also visit Qatar and Dubai, the second largest emirate in the United Arab Emirates. Bangladesh's President Hussain Muhammad Ershad said in Abu Dhabi earlier this week that six Asian Islamic countries including, his country and Pakistan, were lining up a peace initiative aimed at settling the Gulf crisis.

U.S. carrier to 'show strength'

BAHRAIN (AP) — The U.S. aircraft carrier Independence will enter Gulf waters in an apparent show of force against Saddam Hussein, an American military source said Wednesday. U.S. navy officials in the Gulf would not comment on the report because it is a rule that movement of U.S. warships are not pinpointed. But they said that the aircraft carrier USS Constellation entered the Gulf in 1974 although they did not immediately reflect the relevant circumstances. Earlier, it was believed that the Independence would be the first American aircraft carrier to enter the Gulf. The U.S. navy has maintained a presence in the waterway for nearly four decades and kept a carrier in nearby waters during the 1980-1988 war between Iran and Iraq.

Jordan: U.N., Arab efforts in Gulf should complement each other

UNITED NATIONS (Petra) — International and Arab efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis should complement and facilitate one another, Jordan told the United Nations General Assembly Wednesday.

"We would like to emphasise that sincere, objective and unbiased Arab participation must be an integral part of any solution offered by the United Nations for this crisis because we firmly believe that any solution imposed from outside will have no chance of success whatsoever," Deputy Prime Minister and Marwan Al Qasem said.

Delivering Jordan's address to the annual session of the General Assembly, Qasem reaffirmed the Kingdom's rejection of "the resort to force as a way of solving differences between states... nor does it accept the occupation of the territory of others or support or recognise any de facto or political changes resulting from war in our area or anywhere in the area."

"According, Jordan did not recognise the decision to annex Kuwait," he said.

Qasem also reviewed the problems faced by Jordan as a result of the Gulf crisis and the imposition of sanctions against Iraq and said: "It is unfortunate that we see some who want to use this as a means to exercise pressure on us and compel us to support positions and policies that we believe will bring destruction to the region," he said.

Reviewing the situation in the Arab-Israeli conflict, Qasem said Israel had "negated the very foundation on which all the peace efforts of the past decades were based, namely

the formula for exchanging the occupied territories for peace."

He reiterated Jordan's call for an international conference to resolve the Middle East conflict and welcomed a four-point plan proposed by French President Francois Mitterrand and a Soviet to hold a conference for peace in the Middle East as ideas deserving careful attention.

Following is the full text of the foreign minister's address:

Mr. President, It is my pleasure to see you preside over the General Assembly at its current session. Your election to this high office, which you so rightly deserve, is a recognition of the great esteem in which your friendly country and you personally are held. It is an indication of confidence in your ability to conduct the business of this session with efficiency and wisdom that will ensure its success.

I am also delighted to express our gratitude and appreciation to your predecessor, His Excellency Mr. Joseph Garba, for his outstanding efficiency and ability in conducting the business of the forty-fourth session.

I would also like to pay tribute to the efforts of the secretary-general, His Excellency Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, and his incessant endeavours in the service of the cause of peace. I would mention, in this respect, his valuable report on the work of the organisation which, last year, under his leadership, made important accomplishments in many regions and on various levels. We look forward to continued cooperation with His Excellency and to offering all that we can to enhance his ability to carry out his noble tasks.

Mr. President, My country has, during the past

few decades, faced regional circumstances of extreme complexity, which on the whole were the result of the international situation that emerged after the first World War. While those circumstances have placed heavy burdens on us, a small country, they did not prevent the establishment of the philosophy of government in Jordan on solid foundations that combine our national, religious and cultural heritage with an openness towards humanity and interaction with it in a world whose continuity and progress can be guaranteed only by international legal legitimacy.

In 1945, Jordan, together with six other Arab states, established the League of Arab States which was the first regional organisation to precede the establishment of the United Nations whose lofty principles it adhered to. Jordan has acted with utmost moderation and realism in dealing with the various crises, issues and currents which the region has witnessed. This is in keeping with the nature of its own composition, based on the supremacy of law and democratic participation. It has succeeded, despite the regional turbulence all around it, in building a society characterised by constant openness and evolution, on the basis of tolerance and quiet dialogue. The Jordanian people participated in the process of construction through their responsible exercise of democracy which was disrupted only by the circumstances that emerged after the June war of 1967. Now, following the decision of Jordan to sever its legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank, in conformity with Palestinian and Arab wishes, parliament has resumed its work in an atmosphere of openness and full democracy. We are determined to safeguard and develop

this democracy until it reaches a high level of maturity and strikes deep roots to encompass all aspects of life in our society.

This development took place at a time in which we witness a comprehensive and distinct universal turning towards democracy, exemplified by the recent transformations in Eastern Europe which came as an expression of the yearning of the various nations for the enjoyment of their freedom and to marching forward in the process of socio-economic development of their countries. While looking forward to the success of our democratic experiment, we hope that the climate of freedom and popular participation will be enhanced throughout the world, to encompass all states and peoples who yearn for exercising their right to conduct their own affairs free from pressure, dependence and hegemony.

Successive crises that befall the Middle East region during the past decades have hindered the development of this vital part of the world, in spite of the abundance of wealth therein. This resulted in the accumulation of a feeling of frustration and bitterness among its peoples. Failure to find comprehensive and lasting solutions to those crises created a state of constant tension in the area, accompanied by a general psychological climate characterised by the feeling of grievance and of being targeted. This added serious dimensions to the socio-economic complications and made the whole area a fertile ground for all kinds of extremism. To come to grips with such a situation requires, first and foremost, recognition of the right of the peoples of this area to lead a free and dignified life. This in turn requires that serious efforts be made to

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Bandar's attack dismissed as 'cheap propaganda'

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — An article by the Saudi ambassador in Washington, Prince Bandar Ben Sultan, published in the New York Times Wednesday has been dismissed by a prominent Jordanian writer as "cheap propaganda" against Jordan, its leadership and people.

Khaled Mahadeen, a prominent writer and senior information official, described the article, in which the Saudi ambassador attacked His Majesty King Hussein for his policies on the Gulf crisis, as "a vindication of Jordan's legitimate fears" for Saudi Arabia's well-being and future following the deployment of foreign troops on Saudi soil and in the Gulf.

"The source of these fears is not the U.S., Britain and (Israel) nor any other party that does not wish for Saudi Arabia to remain an Arab Muslim country," Mahadeen wrote in today's Al Ra'i Arabic daily.

"Rather, our fears (for Saudi Arabia) stem from those young Saudi princes who have learned nothing from the wisdom and the experience of their fathers and elders in pursuing quiet, balanced and wise diplomacy," he said.

"Instead they rushed into setting up traps for their country in implementation of the scheme of those who plotted their protection and drew a flowery vision of their future if they (these princes) dissociated themselves from any Arab or Muslim commitments which their fathers cherished," he wrote.

"The reward that the hostile circles

promise for these young Saudi princes is that the future of Saudi Arabia will be in their hands, that (Saudi) wealth will be exclusively theirs, and that this was their chance to enjoy a more luxurious life of leisure and pleasure," Mahadeen said.

"Prince Bandar Ben Sultan is an example of this category of petty Saudi princes who was sent to Washington to serve as an ambassador for his country but he turned into an employee for the U.S. State Department implementing all of its demands even if that involved the destruction of the Arab and Muslim role of Saudi Arabia, the custodian of Islamic shrines," Mahadeen wrote.

"Prince Bandar displays enough 'courage' so as not to conceal his links and duties. In one interview with an American television network he was asked by an anchorman: 'It seems that you have many tasks being an ambassador in Washington; what are these tasks?' The prince's reply was: 'I am not a tourist in Washington but I have many duties.' The journalists asked him: 'Could we know something about your relationship with the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)?' The prince said: 'I think I have answered this question when I said that I was not a tourist in Washington.'

"Going back to Prince Bandar's statement, which he read last Tuesday, to stress that it was prepared in an intelligent manner aimed at addressing American public opinion, and the motive behind it was to lessen the deep impact of His Majesty King Hussein's message to the American people. But we are confident that it will not reap the result anticipated by

those who wrote the statement or by the prince who read it; for the Americans could not possibly believe what the prince said about the (Israeli) occupation of Jerusalem while they watch him every night as he welcomes the occupation of his own country," Mahadeen wrote.

"A response to Prince Bandar's arguments concerning the Israeli occupation is simply a long story. But what we would like to know is if the prince is interested in the continuation of the Israeli occupation of Jerusalem or is he interested in an end to this occupation," the Jordanian writer asked. "For it the answer is the later then what would be ultimately demanded from the prince and all of the petty Saudi princes is for one of them to dare to demand the implementation of all the United Nations resolutions pertaining to Jerusalem."

"Or at least for Prince Bandar and the other royal highnesses to accept the implementation of all United Nations resolutions concerning Palestine and Iraq," Mahadeen wrote.

"If we appreciate all this sorrow for the loss of Jerusalem and all of this anger over our inability in Jordan to liberate it... we hope that he will not forget while he is wandering in the halls of the State Department and the CIA building to search for the real cause behind the assassination of King Faisal Ben Abdul Aziz, and if he happens to find the file he would read that the focus of the last meeting between King Faisal and then Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was oil in accordance to the wish of Kissinger himself, while for King Faisal the

(Continued on page 3)

Security Council imposes air blockade on Iraq

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The Security Council has imposed a stringent air embargo against Iraq and Kuwait in an effort to resolve the Gulf crisis by tightening the economic blockade against Baghdad.

The vote was 14 to one, with Cuba casting the sole negative vote on grounds the resolution risked causing a war rather than further peace.

But British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said, "It is precisely by passing this resolution that we are working for the peaceful reversal of aggression."

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen warned that Beijing wanted settlement of the Gulf crisis by peaceful means and stressed that all nations "take rigorous steps to prevent any action that may endanger the safety of civil aircraft and the people on board."

However, both U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in the council and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in an earlier speech to the General Assembly hinted at possible use of force if Iraq refused to withdraw from Kuwait.

Foreign ministers from 13 of the council's 15 members said they endorsed the chairman's report of Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Normally U.N. Ambassador represents their countries at the Security Council. Only Ivory Coast and Cuba were not represented by foreign ministers.

Iraq's ambassador, Abdul Al Anbari, stalked out of the Security Council session after the vote, saying "you know, boycotting a country by enforcing a naval embargo as well as an air embargo is an act of aggression, an act of war."

"But up to now we have been practicing self-restraint because we know that if war were to break out, it would destroy everything in the region," he said.

Under Resolution 670 the council confirmed that its sanctions "applies to all means of transport, including aircraft," and said that states shall deny permission to any aircraft to take off from their territory if the aircraft carries any cargo to Iraq or occupied Kuwait other than humanitarian food or medical supplies.

States must also deny any aircraft, whatever its point of origin, permission to overfly its territory if its destination is Iraq or Kuwait. Exceptions are for planes flying to land and permit cargo inspection; flights approved by the council's Sanctions

Committee, or a U.N. flight for the U.N. Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group.

As it did in its resolution imposing the total economic and military embargo, the council put the responsibility on each state to take all necessary measures to ensure that its aircraft complies with the resolution, and requires that states notify the Sanctions Committee about any flights that could be an exception.

The new resolution strengthens the council's original sanctions action, telling all states "to detain any ship of Iraqi registry which enter their ports and which are being used or have been used" in violation of sanctions.

States are to deny ships that break the sanctions entry to their ports, except in cases of life and death.

Other foreign ministers attending the session were Roland Dumas of France, Joe Clark of Canada, Luis Fernando Jaramillo of Colombia, Pertti Kullervo Paasio of Finland, Tadesse Dinka of Ethiopia, Dato' Abu Hassan Haji Aziz-Dali of Yemen, and the ambassador Kalimba Wa Katana of Zambia. Cuba was represented by its U.N. Ambassador Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada as was Ivory Coast whose ambassador is Amara Essy.

PLO seeks big power debate on all Mideast problems

By Mariam M. Shahin

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan Wednesday affirmed its commitment to respecting United Nations Security Council Resolution 670 calling for an air embargo on cargo getting into or out of Iraq, and a senior official said the Kingdom does not consider commercial flights carrying passengers entering or leaving Iraq and Kuwait as included in the sanction.

"From our first reading of the resolution, it is clear that it applies only to cargo, and until there is a clarification to the contrary, passenger flights into and out of Iraq will be allowed to use Jordanian airspace and territory," said Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddine.

Underlining Jordan's proven record of respect for the United Nations Charter and adherence to the world body's resolutions, Izzeddine said: "We all know that Security Council resolutions are mandatory and the government of Jordan will adhere to the

Security Council resolution."

A Ministry of Transport statement carried by the Jordan news agency, Petra, said that the Kingdom, "in line with Jordan's respect for all United Nations resolutions, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and other concerned departments will abide by this resolution."

Sources close to the CAA said the authority was studying the "fine print" of resolution 670, which was adopted Tuesday by the Security Council.

"What appears to be confusing is the clause which says that every aircraft flying in and out of Iraq should be inspected," said one source.

The Security Council resolution calls on governments to refuse permission to any aircraft going to or from Iraq or Kuwait to fly over their territories unless it lands for an inspection to ensure any cargo is permitted for humanitarian reasons. It says that the aircraft may be "detained for as long as necessary." Exceptions are for flights approved by the United

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Baghdad assails Moscow

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq denounced the Soviet Union Wednesday for its increasingly hostile attitude towards Baghdad over the Gulf crisis and said Moscow had been bribed by the West.

Commenting on a hard-hitting U.N. General Assembly speech by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze Tuesday, the political editor of the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said:

"The threatening tone clearly illustrated the bribery presented by America and its allies, the oil sheikhs."

Shevardnadze warned Iraq that the United Nations had the power under its charter to "suppress acts of aggression." It would invoke this power if the illegal occupation of Kuwait continued.

"We tell Shevardnadze if you are not keen about ties of friendship with the Arabs and wish to be dragged on your face behind the American aggression then the Arabs will not be keen about you and your likes."

Shevardnadze spoke a few hours before presiding over a rare Security Council meeting attended by foreign ministers that voted 14-1 to tighten U.N. sanctions against Iraq by imposing an air embargo.

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Bush taking Americans to a terrible war — Saddam

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has said in a message to Americans that President George Bush was sending Americans to a war more terrible than the one it fought in Indochina.

In a 75-minute address taped last week, Saddam warned that if Bush were to launch war against Iraq, "it would not be up to him to end it."

Sitting at his desk with an Iraqi flag as his backdrop, Saddam said. He was addressing his message to the American people to explain the truth behind Iraq's Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait.

The address accused Bush and Kuwait's ousted rulers of plotting to impoverish Iraq and steal its oil.

"Bush, ladies and gentlemen, is sending your sons to war for no purpose save fatal arrogance," Saddam said.

Saddam spoke in Arabic. His remarks were translated with English subtitles supplied by Iraqi authorities.

The U.S. decision to deploy troops in Saudi Arabia and the possible war that could come would be a repeat of the Vietnam experience for the United States, except "more violent and causing bigger losses," Saddam said.

Excerpts of the tape were shown on the main U.S. television networks. Only the Cable News Network honoured Saddam's request to show the whole tape.

The video tape was delivered Tuesday by Iraqi Ambassador Mohamed Al Mashat to the U.S. State Depart-

ment, which made a copy and gave it to the media. CBS television, serving as a pool for all the press, held a viewing for journalists.

Bush had earlier taped his own message, which was broadcast on Iraqi television.

Three American television networks, ABC, CBS and NBC, said they were treating Saddam's message as a news story and reporting it in their evening news programmes.

A spokeswoman for CBS said they saw no need to broadcast Saddam's message fully and the situation was different from when Bush's message to Iraqis was shown fully on Iraqi television. She said U.S. networks had tried to tell both sides of the story and but the U.S. side was not being told by Iraqi media.

A spokeswoman for NBC said the message has been made before. But Saddam emphasised Iraq's respect for U.S. public opinion and conviction that people will see things its way if given the true facts.

Saddam argued that Iraq was forced to hold westerners in Iraq and Kuwait to deter the United States from war and recalled that the United States detained Japanese-Americans during World War II.

He also said Bush was "promoting a form of neo-Nazism" by asserting "an unchallengeable supreme leadership of mankind" in a speech to Congress on Sept. 11. "Glory is not achieved by aggressive force," he said.

He accused the United States and its allies in the Gulf of conspiracy to undermine Iraq's economy and Arab nationalism.

Kuwait's former rulers "were involved in a conspiracy to debilitate Iraq's economy (and) we have discovered that the United States... was involved, one way or another, in this conspiracy. So was the king of Saudi Arabia," he said.

Saddam set out historical proof that Kuwait was actually a part of Iraq that was severed by Britain in 1913 in preparation for World War I. He disparaged the Al Sabah family that ruled Kuwait until the invasion as "mercenary, weaklings and traitors."

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Aoun-Geagea truce broken

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Rival Christian forces battled with mortars, tanks and rocket-propelled grenades Wednesday in one of the most serious breaches of their ceasefire in four months, police reported.

They said a woman was killed and another wounded from the flareup that erupted at daybreak between rebel General Michel Aoun's troops and Christian warlord Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia.

Thunderous shell blasts jolted thousands of residents from bed in Beirut's Christian sector. They scurried into basements and underground bomb bunkers in the embattled districts of Sin Al Fil and Nabaa, police said.

The fighting tapered into sporadic sniping at mid-morning. Police said traffic between the two sectors of the capital was not affected by the hostilities.

Each said blamed the other for the violation of the May 17 ceasefire that halted 15 weeks of savage fighting between Aoun's 15,000 troops and Geagea's 6,000 militiamen for mastery of the Christian enclave north and northeast of Beirut.

By police count, at least 1,045 people were killed and 2,798 were wounded in the power struggle that broke out Jan. 30.

The confrontations caused an estimated \$1 billion worth of destruction and forced about one third of the enclave's one million population to flee to safer areas.

Aoun lost his air force and all sea outlets in the fighting, which left Geagea's men in full control of 80 per cent of the Christian enclave. The area covers 850 square kilometres of coastal and mountainous territory.

Wednesday's dust-up came amid reports that President Elias Hrawi's government, based in west Beirut, plans to tighten an economic blockade against the zone controlled by Aoun.

Several Beirut newspapers said Hrawi's troops under Gen. Emile Lahoud might close all inlets to Aoun's zone to ban food supplies for his army.

Fuel supplies and money transfers to Aoun's enclave have been banned by Hrawi's government since mid-July.

Yemen president skirts differences with S. Arabia

SANNA (AP) — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh skirted his country's differences with Saudi Arabia and spoke instead in a nationally televised speech Tuesday of the traditional strong bonds between the two neighbouring countries.

He also appealed for international financial assistance to help Yemen sustain losses borne by its honouring the trade embargo clamped on Iraq with which it had extensive relations.

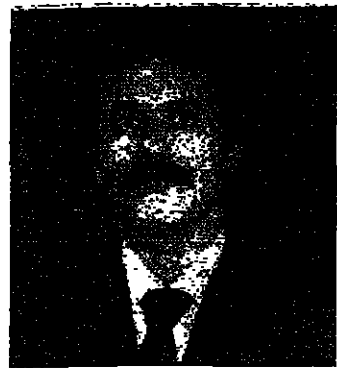
"Yemen is committed to U.N. Security Council Resolution 661," Saleh said, referring to the trade embargo act.

"This has led to severe repercussions that cannot be overcome if the able countries do not fulfill their political and moral duties and their promises," Saleh said.

Government officials have estimated Yemen has recorded a loss of \$1.6 billion because it has stopped refining Iraqi oil and trading with Baghdad.

While Yemen agreed to the United Nations' economic embargo against Iraq and Kuwait, it did not support the first U.N. Security Council resolution which condemned Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Massive demonstrations have



Ali Abdullah Saleh

taken place in Sanaa denouncing Yemen's stance has roused the ire of Saudi Arabia, the main benefactor of the impoverished state, and it retaliated last week by ending trade, residence and entry privileges for an estimated 2.1 million Yemeni workers in the kingdom.

The United States and Saudi Arabia for the U.S.-led military build-up against Iraq.

In his speech, Saleh said his country affirmed the importance of settling the Gulf crisis by peaceful means based on an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait along with the departure of foreign forces from the region.

Palestinians strike in support of Iraq

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip staged a general strike Wednesday in support of Iraq.

Palestinians said shops, schools and public transport were shut down in line with a strike call by underground leaders of the 33-month-old uprising. The strike was also observed in Arab Jerusalem.

Palestinians in the occupied territories have expressed wide support for Iraq.

A leaflet issued by leaders of the revolt condemned the U.S. military buildup in the Gulf but urged Baghdad not to do anything that could be used to justify an attack by U.S. forces massed in the Gulf.

Meanwhile, the Israeli army clamped curfews on two more Palestinian refugee camps in the Gaza Strip to prevent protests

after troops destroyed 37 buildings in Bureij camp, where a soldier killed last Thursday.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens said the demolitions were aimed at "improving security" along a road, not to punish residents. Bureij residents have been confined to their homes since the killing.

Iraq has said its invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2 should be discussed internationally at the same time as the Palestinian issue.

The Israeli army has demolished or sealed a total of 37 Palestinian shops and houses in Bureij refugee camp.

The army said 26 shops and seven houses have been demolished in Bureij since Monday night, and four additional houses had been sealed "in order to allow a safer transportation in the area."

PLO wants big power debate

(Continued from page 1)

could allow Soviet immigrants, Jews and non-Jews alike, to retain their Soviet passports so that they could return to their original country if they wanted or to choose a destination other than Israel. Currently Soviet Jews are granted a special document which only allows them to go to Israel.

This situation has prompted some non-Jewish Israelis to give preference to Jewish immigrants, a move which has caused a rift between them.

Abed Rabbo indicated that some Arab countries were not being taken part in the Arab effort to press for a Soviet shift in Moscow's policy towards Jewish emigration.

"We were told by Soviet political personalities who expressed surprise that some of the Arab officials (who visited Moscow) did not raise the question of Soviet Jewish emigration," he said.

Soviet Foreign Ministry officials told the visiting PLO delegation that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev discussed the link between the Gulf crisis and the Palestinian problem in his talks with U.S. President George Bush in Helsinki earlier this month.

But, Abed Rabbo quoted Soviet officials as saying that the American side confined itself to a "vague position" stressing need to solve the Gulf crisis first and then address other conflicts in the region.

Abed Rabbo, who headed the now-suspended U.S.-PLO dialogue, said that the PLO believes that Washington has two objectives in the Gulf: "To assert its military presence and assume control of the Gulf for a long time to come; and

— To destroy Iraq's military power. "Destruction of Iraq's military power is the translation of Washington's concept of security arrangements in the Gulf following an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait," he said.

The PLO official said the American-proposed security arrangements in the Gulf aim at reducing the size and power of the Iraqi army, defining Iraq's military capabilities and the arms it should possess and the imposition of other exceptional constraints on Baghdad.

"Such an arrangement will constitute a strategic shift not only to the interests of the people of the region but will also affect the international balance, and international economic relations," he said.

The PLO official said other countries and economic powers are already alarmed by prospects of an American control of the oil fields and the manipulation of oil production and prices.

Abed Rabbo said the PLO had sensed — in Moscow and from contacts with other European capitals — that there was an increasing awareness that the American real objective was not the implementation of the United Nations resolutions but to control the oil fields and destroy Iraq.

"There is a widening realisation that the real American plan is not the implementation of United Nations

and it has nothing to do with the apparent intentions declared by Washington," he said.

Abed Rabbo said that recent proposals by French President Francois Mitterrand contained "positive and important indications" that France was eager to give a chance to a political solution of the Gulf crisis.

"(Mitterrand's speech) indicated that France and the majority of other European countries are giving preference to diplomacy," he said.

The PLO official said the organisation, which maintains continuous consultations with Paris, encourages a French role which will "create a balanced approach and a comprehensive treatment of the situation in the Middle East."

Abed Rabbo lashed out at recent increasing criticism of both Jordan and Palestinians by Arab governments which support the Western military build up in the Gulf.

"The campaign against Jordan and the Palestinians is not a sign of strength," he said.

Gulf states, Egyptian officials and press have scathingly attacked the Jordanian and PLO positions on the Gulf crisis. Some Gulf and Egyptian newspapers even implied that Jordanians, Palestinians and Yemenis were responsible for the Gulf crisis by maintaining close relations with Iraq.

"Attempts to hold Jordanians, Palestinians and Yemenis responsible for the crisis is source of astonishment to us and this is the least we could say," Abed Rabbo said.

"Those who are launching campaigns against Jordan and the PLO are responsible for the continuation of the crisis and blocking efforts by inviting the invading American forces and increasing their subservience (to foreign powers)," he said.

"Our policy, and so is the Jordanian policy, is the only option that guarantees and safeguards the interests of the people of the area and aims at protecting the region, from a long-term foreign domination and violation," he said.

The PLO official condemned recent harassments and deportations of Palestinians by some Gulf states. He warned that deportations of Palestinians might have grave repercussions on inter-Arab relations.

"The door is still left open for a solution within an Arab context. Therefore, any infringement on the rights of the Palestinian communities will have long-term repercussions," he cautioned.

Qatar has reportedly expelled more than 200 Palestinians while senior Gulf officials have threatened to deport all Palestinians from the Gulf states.

Abed Rabbo charged that the Gulf states' measures were inspired by the U.S.

"American pressures are not far from deportations and expulsions (of Palestinians) by one Gulf state," Abed Rabbo said.

In a public lecture in Amman last month Abed Rabbo said that the PLO will not succumb "to such blackmail" in a direct reference to deportations from Qatar.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Attaches expelled from Iraq enter Turkey

HABUR (R) — Military attaches and some of their staff from France, Italy and West Germany entered Turkey Wednesday after being expelled from Iraq. A total of eight people crossed the Habur border bridge in a convoy of seven cars. They included West German Attaché Hartmut Schulz, his wife Hannelore, Giuseppe Brizzio of Italy and Alain Richer from France.

Saud leaves Syria after talks with Assad

DAMASCUS (R) — Saudi Arabian Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal left for home Wednesday after talks in Syria, whose links with Riyadh have improved over their common opposition to Iraq. Saud met President Hafez Al Assad Tuesday shortly after the Syrian leader returned from talks in Iran.

Iran urges worldwide protests

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran has called on Muslims around the world to stage anti-American demonstrations Friday to protest the presence of the U.S.-led multinational forces in Saudi Arabia. The Islamic propagation organisation said in a statement that Muslims worldwide should stage demonstrations against "the filthy presence of alien troops in the 'Persian Gulf'" and Saudi Arabia, Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency reported. Iran has condemned Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. But it has deplored the deployment of the U.S.-led forces in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf. The Iranians have been particularly angered at the presence of non-Muslim forces in Saudi Arabia. "Would wolves guard the sheep?" the statement asked, according to the IRNA report, monitored in Nicosia. "Oh Muslims, is it not the time to awake from slumber?" it asked.

Yugoslavia not to return Iraqi fighters

BELGRADE (AP) — The Yugoslav military said Wednesday that Iraqi war planes now in the Balkan nation for servicing will not be returned, the state news agency Tanjug reported. A military statement carried by Tanjug, said no planes had been returned since Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2 and the fighters, thought to be Soviet-built MiGs, would remain in Yugoslavia "for as long as the United Nations Security Council resolutions (concerning Iraq) are in effect." The statement followed media reports here charging Yugoslavia's air force with continuing to service the planes, in defiance of U.N. sanctions against Iraq. The statement described the reports as "malicious." Before the Gulf crisis, Yugoslavia enjoyed close relations with Iraq and regularly serviced Iraq's war planes.

Iran announces arrests, killings

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranian law enforcement agents rounded up more than 2,400 drug addicts and seized more than 1,200 kilograms of narcotics in a three-week crackdown launched Sept. 6, Tehran Radio reported Wednesday. The anti-narcotics headquarters arrested 474 drug traffickers, and eight others were killed in gunfights with Iranian authorities during that time, said the broadcast, monitored in Nicosia. The headquarters warned in a statement that the crackdown on drugs will continue. Harsh punishments meted out by the courts had forced many drug smugglers to give up their "shameful activities," it said.

U.S.: Up to 1,000 Soviets in Iraq

WASHINGTON (R) — Between 500 and 1,000 Soviet military and civilian advisers and technicians are still in Iraq, some helping maintain military aircraft, senior U.S. defence officials said Tuesday. But the officials, who asked not to be identified, also told reporters the Soviet Union was not supplying arms or other military equipment to Iraq in violation of the U.N. trade embargo imposed after Baghdad invaded Kuwait Aug. 2. The number of Soviet military and civilian advisers, technicians and other specialists in Iraq, which has bought billions of dollars in Soviet arms in recent years, was far higher than the 150 estimated earlier by Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Turkey will not accept Vietnamese

ANKARA (R) — Turkey said Wednesday it had rejected a U.N. request to handle the evacuation of 17,000 Vietnamese in Iraq, said by Hanoi to be facing starvation. "While ready to give all humanitarian aid," Turkey has told international agencies that it has taken on a big enough burden in this respect and its border facilities are limited. Deputy Foreign Ministry spokesman Ferhat Ataman said. Vietnam told the U.N. Security Council Monday that 17,000 Vietnamese workers in Iraq faced starvation and called for an international relief and repatriation operation.

Bush gets \$2b more for Gulf

WASHINGTON (AP) — A congressional committee voted an extra \$2 billion Tuesday to pay for U.S. military operations in the Gulf and proposed that the president be allowed to activate reservists for up to 12 months. Present law limits such callups without congressional approval to a total of six months. The votes came as the House of Representatives Committee approved legislation designed to keep the government operating until Oct. 20. The stopgap measure is necessary because Congress has not enacted any of the 13 annual appropriations bills for the budget year, which begins Oct. 1. There was no debate on the additional money for Gulf operations or on giving President George Bush authority to call up reservists for longer periods. A related provision, appropriating \$20 million in "imminent-danger" pay for U.S. forces in the Gulf region, also was approved without controversy.

Text of resolution on air embargo against Iraq, Kuwait

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Following is the text of a resolution adopted by the Security Council on Tuesday. It is the eighth resolution by Council since Aug. 2, when Iraq invaded Kuwait. The vote was 14 to 1 with Cuba casting the negative vote.

Reaffirming its resolutions 660 (1990), 661 (1990), 662 (1990), 664 (1990), 665 (1990), and 667 (1990);

Condemning Iraq's continued occupation of Kuwait, its failure to rescind its actions and end its purported annexation and its holding of third state nationals against their will, in flagrant violation of resolutions 660 (1990), 662 (1990), 664 (1990), and 667 (1990) and of international humanitarian law;

Condemning further the treatment by Iraqi forces of Kuwaiti nationals, including measures to force them to leave their own country and mistreatment of persons and property in Kuwait in violation of international law;

Noting with grave concern the persistent attempts to evade the measures as laid down in resolution 661 (1990);

Further noting that a number of states have limited the number of Iraqi diplomatic and consular officials in their countries and that others are planning to do so;

Determined to ensure by all necessary means the strict and complete application of the measures laid down in resolution 661 (1990);

Determined to ensure respect for its decisions and the provisions of Articles 25 and 48 of the Charter of the United Nations;

Affirming that any actions of the government of Iraq which are contrary to the above-mentioned resolutions or to Articles 25 or 48 of the Charter of the United Nations, such as

decree No. 377 of the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq of 16 September 1990, are null and void;

Reaffirming its determination to ensure compliance with Security Council resolutions by maximum use of political and diplomatic means;

Welcoming the secretary-general's use of his good offices to advance a peaceful solution based on the relevant Security Council resolutions and noting with appreciation his continuing efforts to this end;

Underlining to the government of Iraq that its continued failure to comply with terms of resolutions 660 (1990), 661 (1990), 662 (1990), 664 (1990), 666 (1990) and 667 (1990) could lead to serious action by the Council under the Charter of the United Nations, including under Chapter VII;

Recalling the provisions of Article 103 of the Charter of the United Nations:

1. Calls upon all states to carry out their obligations to ensure strict and complete compliance with resolution 661 (1990) and in particular paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 thereof;

2. Confirms that resolution 661 (1990) applies to all means of transport, including aircraft;

3. Decides that all states, notwithstanding the existence of any rights or obligations conferred or imposed by an international agreement or any contract entered into or any licence or permit granted before the date of the present resolution, shall deny permission to any aircraft to take off from their territory if the aircraft would carry any cargo to or from Iraq or Kuwait other than food in humanitarian circumstances, subject to authorisation by the Council or the committee established by resolution 661 (1990) and in accordance with resolution 666 (1990), or supplies intended

strictly for medical purposes or solely for UNIMOG (U.N. Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group);

4. Decides further that all states shall deny permission to any aircraft destined to land in Iraq or Kuwait, whatever its state of registration, to overfly its territory unless:

(A) The aircraft lands at an airfield designated by that state outside Iraq or Kuwait in order to permit its inspection to ensure that there is no cargo on board in violation of resolution 661 (1990) or the present resolution, and for this purpose the aircraft may be detained for as long as necessary; or

(B) The particular flight has been approved by the committee established by resolution 661 (1990); or

(C) The flight is certified by the United Nations as solely for the purposes of UNIMOG;

5. Decides that each state shall take all necessary measures to ensure that any aircraft registered in its territory or operated by an operator who has his principal place of business or permanent residence in its territory complies with the provisions of resolution 661 (1990) and the present resolution;

6. Decides further that all states shall notify in a timely fashion the committee established by resolution 661 (1990) of any flight between its territory and Iraq or Kuwait to which the requirement to land in paragraph four above does not apply, and the purposes for such a flight;

7. Calls upon all states to cooperate in taking such measures as may be necessary, consistent with international law including the Chicago Convention, to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of resolution 661 (1990) or the present resolution;

8. Calls upon all states to

detain any ships of Iraqi registry which enter their ports and which are being or have been used in violation of resolution 661 (1990), or to deny such ships entrance to their ports except in circumstances recognised under international law as necessary to safeguard human life;

9. Reminds all states of their obligations under resolution 661 (1990) with regard to the freezing of Iraqi assets, and the protection of the assets of the legitimate government of Kuwait and its agencies, located within their territory and to report to the committee established under resolution 661 (1990) regarding those assets;

10. Calls upon all states to provide to the committee established by resolution 661 (1990) information regarding the action taken by them to implement the provisions laid down in the present resolution;

11. Affirms that the United Nations Organisation, the specialised agencies and other international organisations in the United Nations system are required to take such measures as may be necessary to give effect to the terms of resolution 661 (1990) and this resolution;

12. Decides to consider, in the event of evasion of provisions of resolution 661 (1990), or of the present resolution by a state or its nationals or through its territory, measures directed at the state in question to prevent such evasion;

13. Reaffirms that the Fourth Geneva Convention applies to Kuwait and that as a high contracting party to the convention Iraq is bound to comply fully with all its terms and in particular is liable under the convention in respect of the grave breaches committed by it, as are individuals who commit or order the commission of grave breaches.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programme
17:10 Book of Adventure
18:00 News summary
18:10 Local programme
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local series
21:30 Programme review
21:40 Local programme
22:20 Arabic film
22:30 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:10 Molierism
18:40 Des Claffes et de lettres
19:00 News in French
19:15 Documentary
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
21:10 Pride and Prejudice
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature film: "Mark of Zorro"

PRAYER TIMES

05:05 Fajr
06:22 (Sunrise) Doha
12:27 Dhuhr
15:52 Asr
18:31 Maghreb
19:49 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assiut International Church Tel. 627981, 663326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

A slight rise in temperatures will take place and winds will be north-westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./max. temp.
Amman 15 / 28
Aqaba 22 / 34
Deraa 15 / 32
Jordan Valley 20 / 35

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 26, Aqaba 32, Humidity readings: Amman 25 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630521
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101

JNRCS head urges halt to Israel's practices

AMMAN (J.T.) — Calls were made Wednesday to international organisations to stop Israel's going atrocities in the occupied territories, especially in the light of the arbitrary measures against the Palestinian residents of the Gaza Strip.

Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura, president of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS), urged the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), in a statement here, to help halt Israel's human practices at Bureij refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and oppose Zionist measures to the world community.

In a statement to the Jordan Press Agency, Petra, Abu Qoura said that these measures violated the Fourth Geneva Convention on the protection of the civilian population under occupation.

Another call for help to the Palestinians came from Jilad Karshuli, director general of the Education Department of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Amman. He appealed to the world community

and the United Nations to pressure Israel to reopen the Arab universities in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Karshuli said that by keeping the universities closed since December 1987, the Israelis have been depriving 16,000 students of their higher education without any justification.

All international laws and human rights ensure for the children the right to education, but, he said, the Israelis are denying the Palestinians this basic right and are pursuing arbitrary actions designed to destroy the educational infrastructure of the Palestinian people.

Karshuli added in a statement to Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times that not only have the Israeli authorities closed the universities, they had also detained many of the staff members and the students and introduced changes in the textbooks.

He said that the Israeli authorities had imposed heavy taxes on the educational institutions in a bid to obstruct their mission, and

prevented any attempt aimed at improving the academic education for the Palestinian people, like the importation of scientific equipment for laboratories.

He said that the Israeli authorities had barred officials from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) from visiting the occupied Arab territories on a fact-finding mission about the education situation.

But, he added, the PLO had through the United Nations and U.N. agencies raised this important matter and urged world universities to exercise pressure on the Israelis to change their position.

Karshuli praised the European Community (EC) for its decision to deny Israel any support for its scientific research unless it changed its position with regard to Palestinian universities. He called on the United Nations to place Arab universities in the occupied territories under international supervision and UNESCO protection.

Taher cautions against fuel hoarding

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources has cautioned the public against hoarding gasoline as the country has a lot in store and because the fuel is highly inflammable and dangerous to store at home.

Minister of Energy Thabet Al Taher said in a statement that people had been purchasing additional amounts of petrol for storing the fuel and that was a dangerous and unjustified practice since "Jordan has sufficient quantities of petrol and there is no need for hoarding."

The minister said that in view of the coming winter season the public was advised to buy their needs of diesel oil now so as to avert any rush for fuel during the coming rainy season even though Jordan has enough quantities of diesel oil in store and the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) was ready to supply any quantities of diesel oil, kerosene, petrol and other products.

The rush by Jordanians for oil products came after Saudi Arabia abruptly stopped pumping crude oil to the Kingdom and the government said it was studying rationing programmes.

Drivers nevertheless reported no problems getting all the petrol they needed at various petrol stations in town.

On Sunday the Jordan Times contacted several petrol stations to find out about the situation and learnt that the public rush was for kerosene and diesel oil in view of the coming winter season and in the light of the recent Saudi Arabian decision.

Reacting to the Saudi Arabian measure Taher said: "We will look at the issue and treat it as a debt issue; the government was considering rationing oil products."

He said that Jordan had only a few weeks reserve supply and so it might revise its oil pricing policy.

Jordan used to get 17 per cent of its oil needs from Saudi Arabia before Riyadh's measure took force as of Sept. 19.

According to Taher, Jordan will have to resort to imports of oil from other sources since it was implementing the U.N. Security Council embargo on Iraq and can no more receive supplies from Iraq.



The situation in Azraq evacuee camps is under control for the time being, but climatic changes threaten the precariously balanced life of people in the transit camps (photo Yusef Al Arsan)

Evacuation proceeds smoothly, but sandstorms, rain threaten expatriates

By Joumana Halasa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — While the present situation in the desert camps housing Asian evacuees from Kuwait and Iraq is more or less streamlined in terms of basic amenities, a problem that is rearing its head with a major threat in the next two weeks is a sudden shift in climatic conditions which could adversely affect all arrangements that Jordan and relief organisations have set in place for a smooth evacuation process.

Relief officials say they are aware that there could be a drop in temperature with winds causing sandstorms that could seriously disrupt the entire process of offering acceptable shelter to the evacuees and exacerbate the difficulties faced by old people and young children.

"We are aware of the problem and we are discussing it with the Jordanian authorities," said Roland Fidler, a spokesman for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). "As it is, it is cold in the desert during the night, but now it is bearable with use of blankets," he said. "After 10 days, it could be unbearable even with blankets."

Calculations based on annual averages and data available now, show that temperatures will drop to about 12 to 16 degrees centigrade at night and 25 to 30 during the day.

Meteorological Department Director Ali Abanda told the Jordan Times that "the weather will be fine and acceptable till next week and then there will be a definite change."

"There will be a clear drop in temperatures and strong sandstorms with possible rains in the second week of October," he said.

While blankets could help alleviate the problem of cold, very little could be done against sandstorms and rains except to resort to strong, closed shelters, relief officials said.

"With sandstorms and rains, the movement of the evacuees could come to a standstill in the camps," said an Asian diplomat in charge of evacuation of his country's nationals. "They cannot go out of the tent to get water, cook or do anything else. Exposed food will be rendered unfit for consumption."

"Above everything else, old people with ailments and infants will be the ones who suffer most," he said.

"The evacuation is not over by a long shot," he said. "I expect the flow to continue until at least the third week of October and then it will be down to a trickle."

"Considering the minimum time it takes to process the documents related to each evacuation flight, every evacuee will have to stay in Jordan for a period between 36 and 48 hours, and this cannot be avoided," the diplomat pointed out. "Of course, I am talking about a situation where there is no firework in the Gulf."

One of the possible solutions to the problem, he said, is to move the evacuees to "closed" shelters, i.e. proper buildings. But, he pointed out, the sheer number of the people involved makes it even difficult to imagine.

The authorities concerned should work on the problem "right now," and come up with suggestions and solutions, the diplomat said. "Otherwise it will be too late."

According to Fidler of the ICRC, the ideal solution to the problem is shifting the evacuees camps to areas where there are no sandstorms. "This is a problem which we, the ICRC, and the Jordanian authorities have to discuss and resolve," he said.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Cabinet approves amendment to law

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Wednesday approved an amendment to the additional tax law. The amendment stipulates that milk and children's food are exempted from the extra taxes.

Jordan, Italy discuss bilateral relations

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Planning Secretary General Safwan Touqan discussed with the Italian Ambassador to Jordan Francesco de Courten scopes of bilateral cooperation and the technical and capital assistance which will be presented to Jordan to finance some projects. Touqan and de Courten also discussed programmes dealing with presenting emergency aid to Jordan in the form of food supplies and medicine.

Jordan to take part in WHO meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the meetings of the 37th session of the World Health Organisation (WHO) East Mediterranean Regional Committee which will start in Damascus on Oct. 8, 1990. Jordan's delegation to the four-day meetings will be led by Minister of Health Mohammad Al Zaben.

AMO announces quarterly plan

AMMAN (Petra) — The Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO) Wednesday announced its export/import plan for the last quarter of 1990. The plan permits exporting all kinds of fresh fruits and vegetables and allows importing only onions and garlic. The plan allows the Jordanian company for marketing and manufacturing agricultural products to import potatoes and apples.

Tunisia sends relief aid for evacuees

AMMAN (Petra) — A Tunisian cargo plane carrying medicine, foodstuff and blankets to evacuees from Kuwait and Iraq arrived in Amman Wednesday. The Tunisian Embassy's First Secretary Al Muneef Ben Fera, who delivered the aid to the Jordanian concerned authorities, said the assistance comes in response to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's appeal to the world countries to help the evacuees in Jordan and to bolster brotherly relations between Tunisia and Jordan.

SOS Kinderdorf offers relief supplies

AMMAN (J.T.) — SOS Kinderdorf International (KDI) officials in Innsbruck/Austria indicated that the President of KDI Helmut Kutin had responded to the request of the SOS KDI Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa based in Amman, by donating medicines and milk powder worth DM 50,000 (\$32,000) to support the Jordanian government in its emergency plan to cope and help the large and increasing number of evacuees arriving to Jordan as the result of the Gulf crisis. 26 parcels (803 kg), of medicines arrived September 23rd at the Queen Alia International Airport and were delivered to the inter-ministerial committee as one part of the announced donation. 20 tonnes of milk powder will be arriving by road on October 5th, 1990, to be distributed by the officials in the different camps.

Training on civil defence starts in Mafraq

AMMAN (Petra) — A training programme on civil defence works for school students will start in Mafraq Governorate. The week-long programme will include courses on rescue works, first aid and fire fighting besides lectures on dealing with emergency cases. The courses will be held in coordination with the governorate's Civil Defence Department and the Education Department.

16 killed, 230 injured in road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 16 persons were killed and 230 others injured in road accidents which occurred in Jordan between Sept. 15 and 23, according to the Public Security Department (PSD). It said in a statement that 351 accidents occurred during that week exceeding by 23, the total number of accidents which occurred in the previous week, when only 12 people were killed. The statement said that a total of 548 cars were damaged or destroyed in the accidents which took place mostly in Amman. Accidents occurred as well in Zarqa, Irbid, Balqa, Ajlun, Badia, Mafraq, Karak, Maan and Madaba.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zura displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.
- Islamic book exhibition at the Yarmouk University.
- Plastic art exhibition at the Jordan Plastic Art Association.



Ali Subeimat

Amman, Peking municipalities to cooperate

AMMAN (J.T.) — The mayors of Amman and Peking have signed a friendship agreement paving the ground for mutual cooperation in municipal and cultural affairs.

The agreement, signed by Amman Mayor Ali Subeimat and Peking Mayor Chen Chi Tong, provides for an exchange of expertise and information in municipal matters, launching joint ventures related to the construction of public gardens and parks, the planting of trees and other related fields.

The two sides also agreed to cooperate in matters related to city planning, architecture, traffic control inside cities and training of municipal staff on means of protecting the environment from pollution.

Subeimat, in a speech at the signing ceremony, said that the city of Amman and its citizens "have a great desire to bolster ties of friendship and cooperation with the Chinese people in general and the city of Peking in particular."

Subeimat had a meeting in Peking with the speaker of the people's council, with whom he discussed relations between the Chinese and the Jordanian peoples.

Subeimat, who was accompanied on the visit by an official delegation from the Amman Municipality, toured a number of projects carried out by Peking Municipality.

Bush

(Continued from page 1)

An air blockade — which was approved by the U.N. Security Council Tuesday — would be "inhumane and unjust."

Saddam said the United States would be greatly embarrassed and placed "on the edge of a bottomless abyss" by its policy of asserting the importance of democracy while defending a Kuwaiti regime "that is one of the most backward governments."

So profligate were the rulers, that a Kuwaiti prince once wanted to marry a young woman only to find out she was his daughter, Saddam said.

Saddam challenged Bush, again, to an international television debate so that he could tell the world the facts about Iraq's actions and so that the American leader could learn about his intentions.

Iraq desires peace, but one that is based on a broad resolution of all the region's problems, Saddam said. He repeated his call for a peace conference that would resolve Israel's 23-year occupation of Arab territories, Syria's 14-year role in Lebanon, and Iraq's claims to Kuwait.

Kuwait, he said, was part of Iraq under the Ottoman Empire until the British took control of the country in 1899. He called for "the return of Kuwait to the fold of Iraq, its motherland from which it was long severed, and unseparated, like an infant separated from its mother."

Bandar's attack dismissed

(Continued from page 1)

subject of the meeting, as King Faisal had wanted, was Jerusalem," Mahadeen wrote.

"But the due to King Faisal's assassination was a statement made by Kissinger to him: 'Jerusalem comes before oil.' We are sure that King Faisal would have died of frustration even before he was eliminated if he would have known that he would have a new nephew (Prince Bandar) with such a high standard of morals and depth of suspect affiliations which led him into paving the way for the occupation of his country. Prince Bandar cannot even help himself from continuously praising this occupation even if the price was the big role that we have always anticipated as Arabs and Muslims for this brotherly country."

"Those numerous facts that time will reveal will show the role that Prince Bandar played in pushing his country away from the wishes of Arabs and Muslims," Mahadeen said.

"(Bandar) had written to his foreign minister, even before Dick Cheney arrived in Saudi Arabia (soon after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait), asking that the Kingdom invite American troops in 'since the administration had informed me that its final decision was to send forces whether Riyadh agreed or not. So I advise that Saudi Arabia invite the Americans, so that (the deployment) does not appear as an unacceptable occupation of the kingdom by the Americans.'"

"Prince Bandar could not have imagined the danger towards which he and other (third generation) Saudi princes have pushed their kingdom. They could not have done more to magnify the unfounded American claims about the existence of Iraqi intentions to invade Saudi Arabia," Mahadeen continued.

"As to the question of borders that Prince Bandar raised," Mahadeen said, "we would like to tell him the following: Jordan does not believe in artificial borders between Arab states. We in Jordan are the inheritors of the Great Arab Revolt which rose essentially to unify Arabs in one Arab nation from Morocco to Oman. This aim would have been achieved had it not been to the conspiracies hatched against the Revolt's Hashemite and Arab leadership."

"We pray for guidance and good-will for sisterly Saudi Arabia," Mahadeen concluded. "For we realise how much suffering those third generation princes are inflicting on their fathers, elders, Arabs and Muslims everywhere."

CORRECTION

The Jordan Times erroneously reported the death of retired army General Subhi Al Rousan in its Tuesday Sept. 25 edition. The report should have read that His Majesty King Hussein offered the Irbid governor to delegate his condolences to Al Rousan family on the death of the son of the retired army General Subhi Al Rousan. The Jordan Times regrets the mistake.

other aviation related charges," said an airline source.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said the flights to Amman Wednesday may have broken Resolution 670 and should be examined by the U.N. sanctions committee.

"This could be a coincidence. The resolution was just adopted last night. Or maybe it's a violation," he told reporters in New York.

In London a Foreign Office spokesman said the ban applied only to cargo. Nouri Al Safi, head of Iraqi Airways, said that was also Baghdad's interpretation.

In Paris, a French Foreign Ministry spokesman said the French-language text of the U.N. resolution clearly stated the embargo involved cargo.

"There is no scope for any interpretation as far as we are concerned since the text (in French) says the embargo refers to cargo and leaves no grey area," the spokesman said.



Salehman Arabiyat

Seminar tackles afforestation project

AMMAN (J.T.) — Only one per cent of Jordan's area is now covered by forests and nearly 70 million dunums of land in Jordan are considered desert land according to Minister of Agriculture Salehman Arabiyat.

"The Ministry of Agriculture has drawn up plans for involving all Jordanian sectors in the process of afforestation and of protecting the existing forests," the minister said in an address at the opening of a United Nations-sponsored workshop on forest management, held in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture.

"Currently the United Nations is financing an afforestation project in Jordan and the two-day workshop will tackle the objectives of this vital project for Jordan," said the minister.

Arabiyat said that his ministry was striving to achieve the slogan proposed by His Majesty King Hussein of greening Jordan by the year 2000.

EC relief supplies amount to \$107.6 m

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Commission of the European Community (CEC) has since August 1990 provided a total of \$76.6 million in grants (including \$40 million decided on 21/9/90) to relieve evacuees entering Jordan from Kuwait and Iraq. In addition, member states have contributed with the Commission another \$2.2 million and bilaterally another \$28.6 million for emergency aid, bringing the total to \$107.6 million.

The operations undertaken by the Commission of the European Communities up to now are as follows:

1. Repatriation operations of a total of 71,000 evacuees from Amman, Cairo and Ankara to Egypt, Bangladesh, Philippines and Sri Lanka, amounting to \$10.4 million.
2. The evacuation of 20,000 Pakistanis from Kuwait to Amman by road, and their provisional shelter costs — up to an amount of \$1.7 million.
3. The provision of various supplies such as tents, blankets, medical teams, imported/local food, as well as personnel working inside Jordan, for about \$4 million. These operations have been and are implemented by a number of international and Non-Governmental Organisations.
4. Food aid (\$14.8 million) comprising 9,000 tonnes of wheat, 500 tonnes of vegetable oil,

200 tonnes milk powder, 500 tonnes rice and 200 tonnes of lentils for the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and 24,000 tonnes of cereals, 1,440 tonnes of milk powder, 1,440 tonnes of vegetable oil, 480 tonnes of butter, and 2,400 tonnes of various products for Egypt.

5. Finally, the CEC is financially assisting the Jordanian Expatriates Welfare Committee with \$1.7 million for the purchase of food for the local market and for covering the land transport costs of evacuees from the borders till the various exit points of the country.

The Commission of the European Communities has decided on 21/9/90 to increase its contribution by granting \$39.6 million as emergency aid for the relief and evacuation of the various nationals who entered Jordan. The operations agreed upon so far, financed under the new grants, are the evacuation of 14,000 Indian (\$6.1 million) and 1,720 Bangladeshi nationals (\$9.350 million) for the period of 23 to 30 September 1990.

The Commission of the European Communities is prepared to assist the government of Jordan funds to speed up the repatriation of evacuees and thereby to alleviate the already heavy burden on the Jordanian economy and budget.

PSD announces roads closure

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) has said that Rahab-Bala'ama-Hashimieh-Zarqa road would be closed for traffic as of Thursday, Sept. 27, to allow for making the necessary maintenance and expansion works. The PSD said the road would be reopened on Oct. 9. The department said the road would be used as a substitute for Irbid-Jerash-Amman road, which will be closed during the next few months.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Published 1975.

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Extending embargoes wouldn't do the job

AT A time when French President Francois Mitterrand was offering an olive branch to antagonists in the Gulf crisis in the form of a four-stage peace plan, the U.N. Security Council moved to escalate the situation by adopting yet another resolution that aims to strangle Iraq and its people and poison the atmosphere.

This took place less than 24 hours after the French President submitted his plan to the United Nations General Assembly and even less hours after Baghdad welcomed the French proposal and saw in it enough positive elements to make it worthy of consideration and follow-up.

The main feature of the French peace plan is its non-aggressive language, the Iraqis have said. It is the kind of language that Iraq can and will react to in the most positive manner, as it indeed, has said in so many words, in the wake of the presentation of the French initiative. Turning the heat on Iraq rhetorically or by adopting aggressively toned resolutions is certainly not the way to make Iraq speak the language of peace. The ninth U.N. Security Council resolution adopted Tuesday has gone a long way towards effectively neutralizing the goodwill that was generated by the French move and it should have been avoided if peace is to be given a chance.

The second principal feature of the French formula could be found in its endeavour to establish a link between the various conflicts of the region. As an Iraqi official spokesman said after the French peace plan was unveiled by President Mitterrand Monday, "such a vital link and interactive link between problems in the region is what reassures the Arabs and not the aggressive intentions behind them."

We say give the French proposal a chance to survive and develop. The French president has said "if Iraq would confirm its intentions to withdraw its troops and free the hostages, everything is possible."

This statement offers an opening through which the peace process can be promoted and pursued. It appears that such a positive gesture was precipitously superceded by the United Nations Security Council Resolution 670.

And coming as it does on the heels of President George Bush's declaration Monday that he "was not going to yield one inch," such developments can only prejudice the chances of striking a peace deal in the Gulf and drive Iraq further into a tight corner from which it may not extricate itself without a fight.

Judging by Baghdad's reaction to the United Nations Security Council resolution extending the embargo on Iraq to cover air transport, the least that can be said is that its timing is all wrong.

Instead of cultivating the initial positive Iraqi reaction to President Mitterrand's ideas, the ninth Security Council resolution came as a slap on the face of all those who have striven to give peace a real chance.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

GEORGE Bush's announcement that he was not going to yield one inch from his present position with regard to the Gulf crisis does not reflect a picture of a leader really interested in safeguarding peace and security in the world, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Wednesday. The announcement also means that the U.S. wants to impose humiliation on the Arab nation and to force the Arabs to capitulate and succumb to Washington's desires, the paper noted. President Bush should realize that the millions of Arabs and Muslims are not a flock of sheep that can be directed at the whims of the United States or shake with fear upon hearing threats from the West, the paper said. It said that the Arabs and Muslims will fight and chase away American troops from the holy land as the millions of Arabs and Muslims are ready to sacrifice their souls to defend this soil and protect the holy shrines. The paper said that Bush's statement was a reflection of his madness, manifesting America's lust for war and for looting Arab wealth and destroying Arab future. The paper said that should the United States launch a war on the Arabs, Americans and American interests will be exposed to danger everywhere in the world and not only in the Gulf region alone.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily launches a bitter attack on Arab states which chose to align themselves with the United States and support its presence in the Gulf threatening Iraq for its take over of Kuwait. Tareq Masarweh says that Arab capitals which decided to support Washington had forgotten everything about Israel and its occupation of Arab land in Syria, Lebanon and Palestine, and have directed their attention towards Kuwait. The writer reminds these capitals and Arab leaders of Israel's atrocities in the occupied Arab territories, its annexation of the Golan Heights and Jerusalem, and its continued absorption of tens of thousands of Soviet Jewish immigrants and settlers on Arab land. He says that the United States, which these capitals now support against Iraq, has just announced a \$400 million grant to Israel to help finance the settlement of the Soviet Jews on Arab land. He says that these capitals have no thought at all about the plight of the Palestinians who have been displaced for decades but are now showing concern over the handful of Kuwaitis who are not allowed to return to Kuwait but are enjoying the luxury of hotels in Taef and in Europe. The writer says that these capitals and these leaders have been tempted by the shining gold, are blinded by their hatred towards other Arabs and are pursuing their selfish interests in the desert.

Al Dastour daily expressed its pain and regret over Saudi Arabia's position towards Jordan and Iraq and said that the Saudis are now instigating other nations to launch war on Iraq and starve its people.

Whose peace? Whose dividend?

By His Majesty King Hussein

The following message from His Majesty was published in the first issue of Jordan, Issues and Perspectives, a bi-monthly review issued by the Jordan Information Bureau in Washington D.C.

THE crisis in the Gulf, with its militarism and potential for worldwide disaster, has sadly affirmed two cardinal principles — one old and one new — which we have been trying to bring to the attention of the world. The old principle is that the festering, unresolved Palestine question will always be a source of frustration and radicalism which will rebound against our Western friends and their legitimate interests in this part of the world. The new principle, since the demise of the cold war in the past two years, is that the process of global detente and genuine peace cannot be said to have been completed if bitter political disputes and security threats continue to dominate our region of the world, with its several hundred million people, its strategic geography, and its reserves of energy.

We remain convinced that a negotiated solution to the Gulf crisis is possible — if there is sufficient goodwill and composure on all sides to recognise that the component elements of this conflict have now expanded to include issues and passions that transcend the presence of Iraq in Kuwait. These include resource in equity within the Arab states, the historical

consequences of foreign military and political intervention in the region, international double standards in implementing U.N. resolutions, frustration at the lack of pan-Arab coordination and integration, and the deep schism that has emerged within the Arab World.

'The old principle is that the festering, unresolved Palestine question will always be a source of frustration and radicalism which will rebound against our Western friends and their legitimate interests in this part of the world. The new principle, since the demise of the cold war in the past two years, is that the process of global detente and genuine peace cannot be said to have been completed if bitter political disputes and security threats continue to dominate our region of the world, with its several hundred million people, its strategic geography, and its reserves of energy.'

The imperative now is to halt the cycle of political/military escalation and counter-escalation on both sides, explore more diligently the possibilities of a negotiated settlement, and develop a rational Arab response that could provide an acceptable resolution

to the status of Kuwait and bilateral disputes between Kuwait Iraq — on the basis of international law and relevant Security Council resolutions which affirm the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force.

If the entire world is to enjoy the fruits of peace and

standing issues and claims of the people of our region.

We are working diligently to provide the pan-Arab component of this strategy, initially by focusing on resolving the crisis between Iraq and Kuwait, and simultaneously reconstituting an Arab consensus on issues of political cooperation and human development which we feel should be addressed first and foremost within an Arab context. The rest of the world and the United Nations, for their part, should take this opportunity to appreciate the need for more equitable and dispassionate application of the political dictates of international law and the moral force of United Nations resolutions to all the conflicts of our region, with equal urgency and vehemence — especially in Palestine and Lebanon.

If we learn just one lesson from this crisis, it should be that we cannot honestly anticipate a new era of global detente and human well-being if peace is divisible, and justice is selectively applied. The real security of the Middle East and the collective material development of Arab and Western peoples cannot be assured by patchwork military alliance that exacerbate a century of Arab frustration with foreign intervention in our affairs. Genuine and lasting security can only emanate from an application of timeless principles of peace and justice which form the ancient bedrock of our shared moral values.

Now that our troops are in the oil fields, will we let go?

By James E. Akins

The writer, James E. Akins, is a former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia and is now a Washington-based consultant specialising in energy and the Middle East. The following article was published in the Los Angeles Times on Sept. 12.

IN January, 1975, the neo-conservative publication Commentary carried an article proposing invasion of Saudi Arabia as a solution to the eternal Arab problem and to our own economic problems. A flurry of similar articles followed that proposed occupying oil fields on the peninsula from Kuwait to Dubai, pumping them dry, and in 50 years or so returning the properties to their original owners.

I was ambassador in Jeddah at the time, and I was appalled by the cynicism and the immorality of the suggestion. It was also ignorant, impractical and dangerous. If any party attempted to invade Saudi Arabia, the government would immediately sabotage the oil fields; if the invasion were successful, it would take two years to restore production levels, in which time the world economy would be prostrate. Only the Soviet Union might benefit.

I suggested that any one who would take this proposition seriously was a madman, a criminal or a Soviet agent. Henry Kissinger, then secretary of state, had another view, and my career in the Foreign Service did not extend much beyond that point.

Later, President Carter stated that Saudi Arabia was of "vital interest" to the United States and that "an attack on Saudi Arabia would be considered an attack on the United States," which remains the U.S. position.

Nevertheless, there are those in the Bush administration who will point out that conditions are more propitious now than in 1975 for at least a de facto military occupation of the Saudi oil fields. An invasion would not be necessary.

I am not the only knowledgeable observer who is convinced that Saddam Hussein did not intend to attack Saudi Arabia early last month; that would have been irrational, and Hussein is not irrational. Yet Secretary of Defence Dick Cheney convinced King Fahd that such an attack was imminent, to the extent that he dropped the Saudis' long-standing resistance to any military intimacy with the United States. I suspect that he did not envision 100,000 U.S. troops, perhaps double that number, on his territory for an indefinite period of time.

The American protective umbrella has since been extended to the United Arab Emirates.

If Saddam Hussein is not overthrown, he will remain a potential threat to Saudi Arabia and a certain threat to the House of Saudi if the Americans were to withdraw. So, it is conceivable that U.S. troops might be welcome to stay indefinitely whether that would enjoy the favour of the army and the people of Saudi Arabia is another matter.

Those in and out of the U.S. government — including Kissinger — who were serious about taking over the oil fields in 1975 surely will argue that we should not let these extraordinary resources go now that they are in our control.

The scenario can be advanced further. The United States, which has already persuaded the Saudis to increase production by 2 million barrels a day, could order or persuade them to increase production much further. With the current Saudi reserve of 260 billion barrels and perhaps another 70 billion in Abu Dhabi, the Saudi/Emirates production could be raised to 20 million barrels a day within three or four years through a crash development programme. We could then write off permanently — or at least for a generation — Iraq, Kuwait and for good measure Iran.

The oil price could be kept low, ensuring the support of the world's consumers — an argument used in 1975. Or the price could be set somewhat higher, say, \$20 per barrel, far less than it is today and only one-third (in constant dollars) of the peak price it reached in 1980. Cost of production would be no more than \$2 per barrel. The United States could take a management fee of \$10 per barrel, leaving the Saudi government a generous \$8 per barrel. At 20 million barrels a day, our \$10 management fee could reduce the federal deficit by \$70 billion a year after payment of the occupation costs. Only the Spanish conquest of the New World was so richly rewarded.

Today's unanimous world support for current moves against Iraq would collapse under such circumstances. The Soviet Union and Britain, both exporters of crude, would be outpriced. The rest of the Arab World would fall into the enemy camp. But the United States, confident of its military presence, could afford to ignore the wishes of other oil-producing Arabs. It might even use some of the Saudi income to subsidise a friendly Egypt and perhaps Tunisia and Morocco.

A more imaginative plan would be the internationalisation of all Arab oil, thereby rectifying one of God's inexplicable errors in placing such a valuable resource in such an unworthy place.

If this is our plan — and it appears to be — it is as foolish as it was 15 years ago. It is absurd to believe that the Saudi Arabian population and the army would remain docile; and it is beyond belief to suggest that, otherwise, they be exterminated or expelled, as was proposed in 1975. Anti-Semitism (Arab branch) may be acceptable in the United States today, but I doubt that the American people would have the stomach to conduct a racial, genocidal war — even in the interest of such enormous gain.

It would be useful if President Bush told us whether he was excluded the possibility of ending the Kuwait occupation through diplomatic means, and if so, why. If he is preparing to starve or invade Iraq, this should be debated and the American public should know that it will face a rocky road.

If the president is planning a long occupation of Saudi Arabia, he will never admit it; it will just happen. It seems to be happening already.

U.S. planned surgery in Gulf is euphemism for 'dead civilians'

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

FALLUJA, Iraq — Often attacked but never hit in the Iraq-Iran war, a key bridge over the Euphrates raises doubts about the concept of "surgical" strikes that appears to form the cornerstone of U.S. military planning against Iraq.

"In one attack, the Iranian bombs fell close," said 28-year-old Jabbar Adnan of Falluja, 72 kilometres west of Baghdad. "In the others, the bombs landed far away."

The bridge is a large target. More than one kilometre long, it rests on sturdy pillars of sand-coloured stone jutting out from the dark green water.

But Texas-trained Iranian pilots, regarded as among the best in the world, failed to touch it during sorties in U.S.-made fighter-bombers in the 1980-88 Gulf war.

The bridge carries virtually all goods traffic between Baghdad and Jordan over the Euphrates, one of the two rivers that gave Iraq its ancient name of Mesopotamia, the land between the two rivers.

Nearby, an older bridge is too fragile to handle the heavy trucks that used to bring supplies from the Jordanian Red Sea port of Aqaba before the U.N. trade blockade imposed on Iraq for its Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait.

Since then, the United States had led the biggest buildup of foreign military forces in the Middle East since World War II.

More than 150,000 U.S. troops, hundreds of tanks and almost 700 aircraft are now in place in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf.

Statements by U.S. officials suggest that if the Gulf crisis erupts into war, Washington plans to use its high technology air force to bomb strategic targets throughout Iraq — from President Saddam Hussein's palace in Baghdad to airfields, missile sites, factories, roads, bridges and power plants.

U.S. strategists speak of "surgical strikes" that would knock out such targets with pinpoint precision and avoid large-scale "collateral damage," the military euphemism for dead and wounded civilians.

Judging from accounts of Falluja residents, this concept is difficult to translate to practice even where advanced aircraft and highly skilled pilots are involved. Adnan, recalling the Iranian attacks, said: "The closest they came was in an attack in October 1980 when the bombs landed in the river between the new and old bridges."

The structures are about one kilometre apart. In a 1982 raid, bombs and rockets meant for the big bridge crashed into the desert near a road junction about 800 metres away, according to residents.

Another attempt to cut Iraq's east-west lifeline in 1982 caused "collateral" damage but did no harm to the bridge.

"I was asleep when they (the bombers) came," said 21-year-old Ziad Khalaf who lived about four kilometres from the bridge. "When a huge crash woke me, the earth trembled. I looked across the road. There was just a crater where a house has been. Nine people died, including two of my cousins. Eighteen were wounded."

Successful pinpoint airstrikes have been the exception rather than the rule in recent military history. U.S. pilots spent most of the Vietnam war trying to knock out the Paul Doumer Bridge spanning the Yellow River in Hanoi. It survived hundreds of attacks.

U.S. veterans of these air raids say they were restricted in the type of bombs and rockets they could use because Washington did not want them to breach a dam on one side of the bridge. Busting the dam would have flooded Hanoi and drowned much of its population.

The April 1986 raid on Tripoli designed to kill Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi in his headquarters, instead killed several civilians and damaged the French embassy. Qadhafi escaped.

Proponents of the surgical strike concept often cite Israel's 1981 raid on a nuclear reactor near Baghdad which destroyed the installation.

But even in that rare case, success came only at the second attempt. Rockets fired in an earlier raid by aircraft coming from Iran, fell close but caused no damage.

At the bridge across the Euphrates, however, the Iraqis are taking no chances in case war again rocks the cradle of civilisation.

On the roof of a two-storey building, above a hardware shop, the black barrels of an anti-aircraft gun are etched against the brilliant blue sky.

A dark green canopy protects the gunner from the searing sun. One bank of the river nearby, anti-aircraft guns point south, towards Saudi Arabia from where a U.S. attack is expected.

Fears of a U.S. air strike were heightened last week by remarks in newspaper interviews which cost Air Force Chief of Staff General Michael Dugan his job.

He said massive U.S. bombing was the only way to force Iraq out of Kuwait if war erupted.

Dugan was dismissed for giving the interview — not because what he said was wrong but he had not been authorised to say it in public.

Western military experts in Baghdad agree with the assessment that the United States has to rely largely on air power if it goes to war against Iraq. The reason: Iraqi ground forces in and around Kuwait are now estimated to approach 400,000.

To have the 3 to 1 superiority that military strategists say is the best ratio for a successful ground offensive, Washington would have to send in almost its entire army.

"There is no doubt that the U.S. air force now in place (in the Gulf) could inflict very extensively and make supplies to Iraqi forces in Kuwait difficult," said a Western military expert.

"After all there are only six main roads going south."

Experts say the Americans now have the combat and supply aircraft as well as the necessary logistics to fly about 1,000 sorties in the first wave of air attacks.

A key object in the first strike would be to destroy Iraq's 50 military airfields and a roughly equal number of missile launch sites.

"Some of these sites are mobile," said one military expert. "Some have been hardened using advanced Soviet techniques. Most are difficult to identify. Knocking them all out in a first strike is a questionable proposition."

With some launchers for long-range missiles still operational, Iraq could make good its threat — repeated again this week — to set ablaze the oilfields of the Gulf, and strike at Israel to start a war that would engulf the entire Middle East.

"They are talking goddamming (twilight of the Gods) here," reported a diplomat. "If Iraq goes down, it wants to take down as much of the world as it can. They mean it."

Israel balances rewards from Gulf

By Karin Lamb
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

— Israel has won friends and outmanoeuvred some enemies during the Gulf crisis, but many fear the country may face long-term political losses in a rapidly changing Middle East.

Senior officials in the right-wing government of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said that despite Iraqi threats to attack Israel, the country appears better off today than two months ago.

"Today, the advantages outweigh the disadvantages, but we don't know what will be in the future," said Yossi Olmert, head of the government press

office.

Among the short-term benefits to Israel:

— The Americans, busy in the Gulf, have eased pressure on Israel to settle its conflict with the Palestinians.

— Israel's two worst enemies, Iraq and the Palestine Liberation Organisation have discredited themselves in the eyes of the West.

— In view of Iraqi threats, the Americans are expected to be responsive to Israeli demands for more military aid.

— The crisis has accelerated rapprochement between Israel and the Soviet Union. Soviet Leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev met Israeli cabinet ministers this month for the first time.

At the same time, Israel is concerned about huge U.S. arms sales to pro-Western Arab states. Israel fears these Weapons will tip the strategic balance in the Middle East in favour of the Arabs.

"(Arab countries) never use these weapons for their defence, and if they ever use them, we are afraid they will be used against us," Shamir warned after the Americans proposed selling up to \$21 billion worth of weapons to Saudi Arabia.

Some Israeli analysts say the arms deals are a sign that a new doctrine is taking hold in Washington under which Saudi Arabia may outweigh Israel as a U.S. ally in the Middle East.

"One of the main dangers for Israel is a deterioration in its status in the eyes of the United States," wrote Yaakov Goldberg, a researcher at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Institute for Middle East Research.

"Israel's rivals are already busy drafting a new sketch whereby Israel would no longer be an American strategic asset because the Soviet threat... has disappeared and because Israel has no part in inter-Arab disputes," he wrote in the daily Haaretz.

Olmert, the government press official, played down such concerns. "It's inevitable that the Saudis will be No. 1 on the list of American priorities for a while. That hasn't

changed the nature of U.S.-Israel relations."

Other analysts said that once the Gulf crisis is settled, there may be momentum to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

With the Americans and the Soviets on the same side of the fence, it might be difficult for Israel to withstand the pressure to make a deal, including giving up the Israeli West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Already, the Americans reportedly have warned Israel to show some flexibility on U.S. compromise peace proposals once the Gulf conflict is resolved.

Gerald Steinberg, a Middle East historian at Tel Aviv's Bar Ilan University, said he

expected "more pressure on Israel to make concessions" once the Gulf crisis is resolved.

Israel's most imminent concern is that Americans would settle for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and leave the Gulf without having destroyed Saddam Hussein's war machine.

The Israelis argue that in such a case, Israel would be left alone in dealing with a stronger and more dangerous Iraq.

Israel has tried to get that message across while trying not to look like a warmonger.

Olmert spelled out Israel's double message: "We don't incite the Americans to do this or that, but aggressive elements in the Middle East should be punished enough so they are not able to repeat their aggression."

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Savages are not those who carry flags of truce, but they are those who ignore them

JTV documentaries, films help get Arab message across

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Many of us here in Jordan have been trying hard to send a message across to Westerners. It is on why we cannot but support Iraq against the American-led military intervention in the Gulf. We have had extreme difficulty in trying to make the West understand our position as an Arab people in a developing country — not because we have not tried every possible effort and method to get the message across, but because there seems to be a mental block on the part of many, if not most, Westerners against understanding the situation the way we ourselves see it.

Endless articles and columns have been written, and many interviews and talk shows have been recorded, in an effort to get the Arab point of view across. Individuals and ordinary citizens have made themselves available to express the layman's feeling on this issue; and we must not forget the efforts on the part of His Majesty the King, H.E. Royal Highness the Crown Prince and officials in trying to get the picture across.

There has been, moreover, another recognisable endeavour by Jordan Television to help this worthy effort. That foreign programme is successfully portraying a picture of

history very similar to what is happening today — for we know very well that history is good at repeating itself.

There is an intensive campaign on JTV about Western and white hegemony, colonialism, and oppression against the black, red, brown, and every kind of coloured and underprivileged people... a campaign of productions mostly made by the U.S. and Britain that is very relevant to what is happening now in the region and why we are against any kind of foreign supremacy. Maybe the West will understand its own language if they feel they cannot understand ours.

JTV's campaign is made up of documentaries and dramas which are not new. They are reruns put together in a way to show that white or Western supremacy simply does not work, even if the people are massacred and the hero dies in the end. The fight continues and the struggle goes on.

Let us start with the documentaries. The British documentary production of *End of Empire* is a very good depiction of how the days of British superiority had to end, despite the bloodshed, the manipulation and blackmail of Third World leaders and the endless efforts to eliminate any type of resistance to Britain's hegemony, the resistance and will of the people

continued and the empire fell as all empires eventually do.

Although Maggie (Thatcher) & Company are trying their very best to revive this empire in the Arabian Gulf and region at large, it will simply fail... even if they succeed and shedding a lot of blood. The will of the Arab people for independence from British, American or French hegemony over Arab oil or territory or decision-making is irreversible. Even if the hero, in this case Saddam Hussein, is killed, the hero has created many other heroes who will not kneel to the West, even if it means the starvation of our own children.

Other documentaries on JTV explicitly portray the sickening attitude and acts of superpowers or empires towards the poor people of this unbalanced world, who end up being dead or crippled victims of arms dealers, policy-makers, and greedy bullies.

"In El Salvador, there is no space for the dead... 40,000 Salvadoreans were executed by the U.S.-backed government," said the commentator on *The Four Horsemen*, a documentary on the harsh reality of imperialist support for corrupt and undemocratic regimes. The U.S. financed the entire war, ensure its continuity and the fixed targets were hospitals and schools were situated, said an American congressman on the show, who added that such intervention does not lead the U.S. to achieving its political goals.

The same programme said that the U.S. had spent \$500 billion to wipe out 2.5 million Vietnamese during the Vietnam war. Besides the loss of life and money, the U.S. did not win the war. And if the U.S. thinks that because its war in the Gulf is financed by others that they will succeed in wiping out Iraq and its leadership, it is a bad investment and the losses will still be a lot greater than those resulting from the Vietnam war. But let us not get into that because we have heard the details of how messy and costly any war would be, while at the same time there



Steven Biko, the anti-apartheid leader who was killed while in detention in South African prison.

are children literally starving to death because the war-hungry generals need to spend so much cash on satisfying their own bloodthirsty appetites.

While we try to be understood in the West at this critical stage in history, we try to understand why the majority of people of the West are so much in support of the war generals and Western leaders who are refusing to talk peace. It is difficult to comprehend why the very same people who are today criticising the U.S., Britain, France or any other former empire for imposing their desires on other peoples can not see that the U.S. is doing exactly the same thing but with different players at a totally different area.

JTV has been successful in showing us this reality, but we wonder if the target audience is getting closer to our point of view on the whole issue of superpowers vs. victims who only want to live a dignified life and sometimes just to survive.

In the old, but relevant film, *Soldier Blue* aired last Saturday the Indian chief believed that the white American did not want to destroy his Cheyenne tribe, and thought that by holding up the flag of truce, the white gener-

al would spare their existence. Little did Spotted Wolf, the Indian chief, know about the image drawn by the white authority on the Indian; Savages who hack whites to death and rape with women. (Does this sound familiar or similar to the "butcher of Baghdad?")

When the indigenous American chief held up the flag of truce, the white general did not even want to see it and immediately ordered an attack on the "savage" tribe that was totally wiped out, including the women and children — the victims of every decision made by war mongering generals. Spotted Wolf trusted the white man when he shouldn't have, and the general refused to look at the flag of truce carried by the chief, although he was told by one of his officers to do so.

It is incredible how history does repeat itself. Here is Iraq holding up the flag of truce and is open to a peaceful solution to the Gulf and the Middle East conflict, but the white general refuses to even look in that direction. The general just wants to destroy and eliminate the existence of anyone who wants to live according to his own rules and not according to the general's.

Soldier Blue finally saw what the generals and officers were up to and rebelled against it. What we really need right now is more "soldier blues" to see the realities of what is happening here today and try to prevent "wiping out anyone who does not play by our rules."

The problem with the American Indian was that he was trusting of the enemy and could not possibly hold out against sophisticated weapons used by the white man. The white man was clever enough in those days to destroy and prevent anyone who would eventually try to rebel against white supremacy on the Indian land. The job was done swiftly and early.

But times have changed. The world has become a global village and communications are at a peak. A tribe will not be wiped out today without the whole world knowing about it minutes after it hap-

pens, which gives us more hope that more "soldier blues" will come to the surface this time. It gives us more hope that fighting for independence in these days is a lot easier than it used to be, even if the heroes, as I said earlier, are killed.

Martin Luther King, for example, fought for equal rights for his people, and though he was assassinated, his dream of equality was realised and the black people of the U.S. have been freed, though today they continue to pay the price for decades of oppression and slavery. Though the hero died, the people continued their fight until achieving freedom and a dignified life.

The same was true in the message JTV sent on the silver screen with the movie *Cry Freedom* and the mini-series *Mandela*. Both Steven Biko (in *Cry Freedom*), who was killed in a South African prison for his outspoken fight against apartheid, and Mandela, who survived 27 years in prison clinging to the hope of a free South Africa, have today won. Though apartheid still exists today, there is an obvious turn towards equality for the indigenous black people, and total equality is also inevitable.

JTV has really been doing an excellent job of portraying the mistakes of powers in history that are today being repeated, but that can still be prevented from getting out of hand. We do not want to see films in 10 or 20 years from now showing how the Arabian Gulf and the Middle East were blown to pieces because the white war generals refused to see the flags of truce held up by the Jordanian, Palestinian, Iraqi and other Arab chiefs. Let the generals for once, learn from the lessons of history and prevent an ugly repetition. But, more importantly, let the freedom-loving people of this world force their generals to see the flag of truce held high and force the generals to respond to that flag.

Savages do not carry flags of truce. Savages are those who ignore them.

Democracy in America but U.S. duplicity here

By Abdullah Hasanat

U.S. President George Bush has not exactly been an idol for the Arab masses over the past seven weeks. But let us face it. Not everything he does or says nowadays is terribly wrong and can be dismissed out of hand as hostile to the Arabs. Take for instance his address to Arab-Americans near the White House Monday.

In response to a wave of threats and intimidation against Americans of Arab origin in the U.S., Mr. Bush told them: "These hate crimes have no place in a free society and we're not going to stand for them. I have been appalled by reports... of discrimination against Arab-Americans, and I condemn such acts and I will continue to condemn them."

On that same day, Saudi Arabia, America's strategic ally in the Gulf, was reported to be harassing Yemeni nationals who were heading home after being dismissed from their jobs in that oil-rich country.

Also Monday, the Egyptian authorities sent back Palestinians from Gaza who intended to cross into Egypt en route to their jobs in Iraq and Kuwait. The Egyptian government had a fortnight or so earlier barred their own nationals from leaving for Amman to attend a pan-Arab conference here.

Those banned from travel included political party leaders and trade unionists.

Concurrently with that, Egypt started harassing Jordanians, Palestinians, Sudanese and Yemenis because they differ in their political opinions with the Egyptian regime's stands. The Saudis, and some other Gulf states, notably Qatar, have now become experts in expelling Jordanians, Palestinians, Iraqis and Yemenis, including diplomats.

So much for America's friends in the region that George Bush wants to foster and protect. One wonders how the U.S. president is going to reconcile his condemnation of acts of aggression against Arabs in his own country and the behaviour of his Arab allies in the region.

Perhaps President Bush should read His Majesty King Hussein's letter to the American people or take another look at it if he did. In that letter the King demanded that governments in the region should be encouraged to democratise and that people should enjoy equal rights. This is one of the areas where the Arabs cannot tolerate America's double standards and duplicity. For while the people in this part of the world in the main admire America's and Europe's true democratic institutions and practices, they cannot find any justification for America's support for oppressive, backward and corrupt practices by any regime.

Governments that deny their own people their human rights and at the same time look down on other people, are not exactly democratic regimes worthy of world support.

The attitude of both the Saudi and Egyptian regimes will only deepen the conflict and further heighten resentment for their protector and ally, the U.S. Americans can still choose to stand by and uphold their principles of democracy, equality, freedom, and respect for human rights. But they cannot possibly claim to fight for their lofty ideals and their democratic way of life by their military presence in some countries of the Middle East.

President Bush surely does not want to protect Arab underdogs in the U.S. and at the same time forget about their plight in their original homeland. If he did that, might he not be justifiably accused of duplicity, bias and hypocrisy by at least some of us who are living here, in this part of the world.

Vaccine holds promise in preventing skin cancer

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — A vaccine now being tested on humans holds promise in preventing skin cancer, an American researcher says.

Dr. Jean-Claude Bystryn of the New York University School of Medicine said the melanoma vaccine had proven effective on animals during five years of testing and had produced no side-effects so far in humans.

Bystryn told a recent symposium on skin cancers that the vaccine had stimulated the immune response in about half 200 human subjects and could be ready for use in five years. It primarily would be used to prevent recurrence of melanoma or slow its development.

"In the long run, if the vaccine proves itself to be safe to use and effective, it will be used to prevent melanoma in high-risk individuals," Bystryn said.

According to figures released at the conference, the number of melanoma researchers in 1990 predicted would exist by the year

2000 had already been reached by 1985. Melanoma is one of the most common cancers in Australia and claims about 800 lives per year, even though it is largely preventable. Researcher Dr. Helen Shaw estimated its incidence has doubled over the last decade in New South Wales state, which includes Sydney.

Sydney dermatologist Dr. Alan Cooper said that new figures show an exponential rise in the international incidence of melanomas and that factors other than sunlight exposure could be involved.

"It may just be the sun, but everything points to it being more than that," he said. "There may be some new environmental carcinogen that we just haven't identified."

Professor John Epstein, of the University of California's Department of Dermatology, told the symposium that he believed ozone depletion was being wrongly blamed for the increase.

CSN — tearing down walls around the world

By Hillel Italie
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — David Crosby and Graham Nash were performing at the United Nations last fall when they learned the Berlin Wall was coming down.

They got on the telephone — one call to fetch Stephen Stills, another to book a flight and CSN were on their way.

"It epitomises everything good about our music, tearing down walls between people," Crosby explained under calmer circumstances, the three sitting around a coffee table in their hotel suite. Nash and Crosby lean forward. Stills, again the last to arrive, slouches sideways, his legs bent over the armrest of his chair.

"The wall has been a thing for us. When I saw them take the sledgehammer to the wall

I got tears in my eyes. We just heard this song of Graham's called *Chipping Away*. I guess we're crazy. Somehow it was significant to sing that song at that place at that time."

Everyone seems to have changed during the past 20 years except Crosby, Stills and Nash, who look as if they just walked off the stage at Woodstock: jeans, hair and outlook intact.

Formed in late 1968 as one of rock 'n' roll's first supergroups, CSN is now more in the tradition of folk performers such as Peter, Paul and Mary or Pete Seeger, travelling the world to lend their voices to liberal causes, entertaining crowds with well-worn favourites.

Whether it's a concert at the wall or an environmental benefit back home, CSN are often there, guitars in hands, pausing in the middle of *Teach*

Your Children to let audiences sing the chorus.

"That song is like an anthem," Crosby said. "Everybody relates to it. My daughter related to that when she was 5-6 years old. My father related to it when he was 80. Nash, I hate him, but he writes these great songs."

"The things we talk about are important to us and to other people," Nash said. "We see 14-to-55-year-old kids singing to *Teach Your Children* and the rest of the things we do. It means two things: We made it so far after a long and rocky road, and after we're all dust in the wind we'll have something left behind."

Finding enough material for live shows is no problem, it's what to cut out that causes arguments. They've been touring this summer to promote their new album, *Live It*

Up, and that means some favourites have to go.

Teach Your Children is always there. So are *Helplessly Hoping* and *Our House*. But *Long Time Gone*, written by Crosby after the assassination of Robert Kennedy in 1968, is temporarily on the shelf. *Deja Vu* was retired for years and has only recently been brought back.

A tougher question was whether to play Woodstock, Joni Mitchell's song about the celebrated 1969 concert that CSN (and part-time member Neil Young) made famous. Crosby and Nash wanted it out, Stills kept it in.

"It's one of those times Steven was right," Crosby said with a laugh. "The last time was '68 or '69? God, it galls me, but he was right. He

said we ought to do it because it rocks like crazy. We didn't want to be tagged with Woodstock, the 'W' word."

All of this, he says, has something to do with the wall. It's about communication. Instant feedback. He remembers being with Young in 1970 when they picked up copy of *Life* magazine and read about the four Kent State University students killed by the National Guard. Tens days later, Ohio was on the radio.

"We saw that one picture with the girl standing over the body," Crosby said. "We both looked at it, we were just floored. Neil picks up the guitar, writes the song right in front of me."

"I call up Los Angeles, Nash, we have to go to the studio — now." He sets it up,

finds Stills and we made the record and put *Find the Cost of Freedom* on the back."

Nash speaks of *After the Dolphin*, a song off the *Live It Up* LP about a British bar called *The Dolphin* that had been bombed by the Germans during World War I. That was a turning point, he explains. It was the first time innocent civilians were subjected to bombing, and now "warfare was no longer personal. At least before, you had to face your enemies."

"Most of the ills of the human condition we would attribute to communications breakdown: wars, famine," Crosby added. "The wall was a physical separation. Communication went right over it and through it. A tank didn't knock that wall down, an army didn't knock that wall down, people did, an idea did."

What women want

By Maha Addasi

THE Austrian psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud once said, "the great question which I have not been able to answer despite my 30 years of research into the feminine soul is 'what does a woman want?'"

Had the English author Samuel Butler been there, he would have had this answer, "Bandits demand your money or your life, while women require both."

Listen men, don't clap too hard. Butler has left a lot to be said.

A woman wants to be appreciated. For example, if a wife comes home late from the shopping mall or work and she fails to prepare dinner — this is of course when the housekeeper is on vacation, she rushes and fry eggs, at which time the husband would eat and say, "mmm, mmm, these are the best fried eggs I've had in a long time. Honey, you're a wonderful cook," and not, "fried eggs again, I want real food."

Another thing, a woman wants to be complimented, especially after she comes from the hairdresser's with a new haircut. After all, a woman goes through many hardships at the hairdresser's.

First, the lady leans her head back into a sink. When her neck is ready to snap, the hairdresser starts to use the

shampoo. Then when she no longer feels her neck because of numbness, the hairdresser applies the conditioner. Finally, when the woman is convinced that her neck has been extended one whole vertebra, the hairdresser starts rinsing her hair.

Next, the lady chooses a new style. This time she is determined to stick to the design of her choice no matter what. When the hairdresser approaches the lady's seat, she says that what the lady has chosen is not suitable and she, the designer, will style the lady's hair in a more fashionable way.

At this point, the lady should resist the change. So what gem of sophistication does the lady utter to make her point. The lady says "OK."

When the lady looks in the mirror next, there is only a shadow of recognition of the person in the mirror. The tears won't help now, especially after she has paid a fortune for this style.

Now, when the lady gets home she doesn't want to hear comments like, "what happened to you?" Or, "how long for this style to grow out?" But comments like, "it's amazing how every style looks cute on you."

There is a great deal more a woman wants. Things like: your respect, your admiration, your money, your life, and your car so she can get to the shopping malls.

This week in History

Saturday, Sept. 29

1911 — Italy declares war on Turkey, and Italian fleet bombards Tripoli coast.

1918 — Allied forces score decisive breakthrough of Hindenburg Line in Germany in World War I.

1923 — British mandate in Palestine begins.

1938 — Britain, France, Germany and Italy agree at Munich conference to transfer Sudetenland to Germany while remaining frontiers of Czechoslovakia are guaranteed. Germany thus becomes dominant European power, and both little entente and French system of alliances in Eastern Europe are shattered.

1976 — Syrian troops in Lebanon drive out Palestinian guerrillas from most of their key mountain positions east of Beirut.

1979 — Pope John Paul II addresses crowd of more than

one million in Dublin to make impassioned appeal for peace in Northern Ireland.

1988 — United Nations peacekeeping forces monitor world's trouble spots for 40 years wins 1988 Nobel Peace Prize.

Sunday, Sept. 30

1939 — Germany and Soviet Union sign treaty of amity settling partition of Poland in World War II; Britain sends 150,000-man force to France.

1946 — International military tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany, finds 22 top German Nazi leaders guilty of war crimes, and 11 are sentenced to death; London conference on Palestine meets but is boycotted by Zionists.

1955 — French delegates to U.N. General Assembly walk out after Assembly decides to take up question of unrest in Algeria.

1971 — United States and Soviet Union sign pacts designed to avoid accidental nuclear war.

1978 — Scores of people, mostly civilians, are reported killed around Beirut in renewed fighting between Lebanese Christians and Syrian troops.

1984 — Egyptian court sentences 107 Muslim extremists to prison for attempting to set up Islamic regime after 1981 assassination of President Anwar Sadat.

1988 — Lebanon's rival Muslim and Christian cabinets meet separately in effort to defuse tensions.

Monday, Oct. 1

1895 — Massacre of Romanians in Constantinople.

1928 — Soviet Union inaugurates first five-year plan to increase farm and industrial production.

1949 — People's Republic of China is proclaimed in Peking under Mao, with Zhou Enlai as premier and foreign minister.

1960 — South Korean troops cross 38th parallel into North Korea.

1970 — United Arab Republic's Vice President Anwar Sadat succeeds the late Gamal Abdul Nasser as president.

1972 — Chinese government celebrates 23rd anniversary and says way is open for friendly relations with United States.

1980 — Warsaw Court gives legal approval to Poland's first six independent trade unions.

1988 — Iran and Iraq's foreign ministers meet at United Nations to resume Gulf war peace talks.

1989 — Communist East Berlin permits exodus by about 7,000 East German refugees to the West.

By The Associated Press

Weekend Crossword

TAKE A DAY OFF

By Martin J. De Wit

ACROSS
1 Sicilian bed guys
2 Yesterday's
3 Gascogne
4 Trast
5 Actor Warner of
6 Unrefined
7 Inter-
8 Litter —
9 Line a lap
10 Perfor and
11 Miley
12 Drudge
13 Vane dir
14 Lincoln's in-laws
15 Dregs
16 Was borne
17 Small thorn
18 Correct
19 Kind of file
20 Flopping plant
21 Commotion

DOWN
1 Lawn tender
2 Solo
3 Did
4 Sign
5 Contrived
6 US president
7 Air, mer
8 Inequality
9 British's wall
10 Lloyd the actor
11 Star in Orion
12 Residue
13 Accrues
14 Train
15 Handsome lad
16 Diligence
17 Scap
18 Conno, pl
19 Man of morals
20 Meantime

36 Elbow room
37 Make sure the
38 Furniture shines
39 Party dress
40 Los Angeles
41 Trast
42 Unrefined
43 Inter-
44 Litter —
45 Line a lap
46 Perfor and
47 Miley
48 Drudge
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50 Lincoln's in-laws
51 Dregs
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53 Small thorn
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56 Flopping plant
57 Commotion

75 Fresh set of
76 Dressed for the
77 Kitchen
78 Los Angeles
79 Trast
80 Unrefined
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82 Litter —
83 Line a lap
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85 Miley
86 Drudge
87 Vane dir
88 Lincoln's in-laws
89 Dregs
90 Was borne
91 Small thorn
92 Correct
93 Kind of file
94 Flopping plant
95 Commotion

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103 Drove a vehicle
104 Abhors
105 Tristful plants
106 "Gill" (Le
107 Segel
108 Scottish girl
109 A Gershwin
110 Army man
111 By the
112 (arduously)
113 Duck
114 Asday
115 Skun
116 Rub off
117 Rub off
118 Extraordinary
119 person
120 Snicker —
121 Ova
122 Domesticated

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60 Brother
61 Heavy carts
62 Disinclined
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64 Scavenger
65 The silent Marx
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30 Fit
31 Gardener at
32 Times
33 Quarantine
34 Pakistan region
35 Gaped
36 Silly one
37 Annual
38 Kind of hound
39 Miki cigar
40 Copulant
41 Alopes
42 King of Tyre
43 Jaggedly edged
44 Cut
45 Fast planes
46 Extended
47 Crest
48 Synonym
49 Ova
50 Domesticated

Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Thankful lady buys valuable lilies of the valley for kind boy friend.
2. Be careful in life with your words as they cannot be unsaid.
3. Weiled wrenster, walking in winter, winks at widow wearing wig in window.
4. Men like "Make love not war" as good slogan for salvation of world.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. LIOU CUE IPHRLTY SPEIPER SAPULUM
ALPHIRE GLA BQAM OLAF SPAN
ITGQCALM BPILTY. —By Lou H. Jones
2. MOMLCRT AFM-HJK ROJXACL BCTFB AF
BROMMRB RA REM QAOZHJNG LASNZ
NCGMKN QM VSR JFAREMO ZMJZ MFZ
VAO. —By Gordon Miller
3. RAY MYONE OE GSLOE OG MONARCH EVR
VECH VE RAY SCLOE. —By Ed Haddad
4. "OLDSAYIN GA LA OLDSAYIN SYNA" ARGU
ARLDSA LA AILGS ANDAN. —By Barbara J. Kay

SOLUTIONS OF
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

SOLUTIONS OF
LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

Endangered species

By E. Yaghi

ACROSS an ancient river, the beat of war drums broke the morning stillness. A chilly breeze ascended and mixed with the odor of coming destruction. The first invincible horseman of the apocalypse carrying war, hid under his black shroud while his shrill laugh pierced the air as he whipped his way through approaching terror and destruction. Sweat broke out on his horse's hide and glistened in the morning sun as he thundered across the peaceful countryside where minute fantasies still dipped in unpoluted waters.

Approaching from yet another direction, a second rider of apocalypse bore through on his fiery steed carrying the winds of famine. Further south, a third horseman beat over a frothing saddle, pulling the mane of his stallion, bearing disease. His skeletal hands pointed at the unsuspecting countryside and he cackled a raspy laugh that shook the very rocks and trees and if they could speak, they would have uttered a fearful warning.

One of the occupants of a drab cement house awoke as if sensing a hurricane of disaster and shuddered. He looked at the other occupants to see if they had also felt the same chill he had. He noticed that his mother's flimsy mat was empty and heard the weak cries of his infant sister respond to the fear that had shaken him. Was she dying? Laith had already known death that fatal day the hospital rung up with the news of his father's accident.

His father's death shocked him but impending war agitating the Gulf crisis combined with world sanctions against Iraq had nearly paralysed him. The enigma whirled in his mind and he failed to comprehend any rationality concerning his family's situation. He cast his eyes a bit further around the room and saw the limp figure of his younger brother merge with his thin mat. Despair grabbed him. Why were he and his brothers and sister being punished? What crime had they committed? Where was the medicine that would cure his toddler brother's intestinal disorder, and the milk that would nourish his baby sister? Near his sick brother, the gray head of his elderly grandmother lifted in weariness and dulled senses.

In the kitchen, his mother went through the empty ritual of preparing breakfast which was a piece of bread dipped in the hot tea. Even this began to seem a luxury. Laith and his family were poverty stricken because they had lost their sole provider and were now burdened by world sanctions of food, milk and medicine. He remembered how not long ago, the kitchen shook with the ring of his father's laughter and his mother's eyes sparkled in response. Now her eyes reflected misery and were curtained by a continuous mist.

All the children of Iraq were being held hostage in a war waged by superpowers scrambling for the black jewels of petrol. Foreign armies scabbling themselves on targets aimed at children like him. At night, Laith would watch President Bush and Margaret Thatcher beat their war drums and dance around bonfires chanting old war songs. They seemed to yell, "death to Iraqi children and long live Kuwaiti children!" as their war paint shone on their perspiring faces. If only Laith could voice his opinion to the world and express his rage and hopelessness.

He remembered his mother once saying that children are flowers in their parents lives and the hope for the future, but flowers without food wilt and die bringing hope for nothing. What right did alien nations have to punish children and make them their scapegoats?

Laith remembered reading about endangered animals and how many scientists contributed to preserving the remainder of their species. He was happy about the conservation and protection of wildlife but now, what about child life? Weren't children important too? Furthermore, what would happen to his mother and grandmother? He could only sense imminent death. But Iraqi children were the enemies of none, why were so many nations their enemies? children who had been the silent victims of Israeli brutality. He remembered seeing their tiny stones on TV, hurled at the impenetrable Goliath. He remembered the tragic scenes of Jews breaking young bones with huge heavy rocks as punishment. Was all life a hypocrisy? A lie? Were all Third World children less than human? Or was dehumanising restricted to Arab children only?

It had been some time since Laith played football. He missed throwing the ball, yelling and laughing the carefree laugh of a child. Had he lost that laugh forever? Now he had nothing to laugh for.

A swarm of questions clogged his mind. When would his family receive adequate food, milk and medical attention? When would the world let all Iraqi young be children again? Could his grandmother live through any more disasters? How long could his mother continue to cope?

The ice of the iron weapons aimed at the children of Iraq made Laith shudder and mingled with the pangs of hunger boiling in his stomach while not too far away linger three of the deadly horsemen of the apocalypse who seek war, famine and disease as their grotesque laughs pierce the limbo of the Gulf crisis where Laith waits for the most precious gift of all to be granted, the gift of life followed by the blessing of peace to ward off the three evil waiting horsemen who contemplate with eager anticipation the arrival of the 4th rider of the apocalypse who carries the seeds of death.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Sept. 27

9:10 Pride and Prejudice

Charlotte gets married. Gene is in London. Elizabeth loses a man she thinks he left her to another woman and an old marriage plot is revealed.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film

Mark of Zorro

Starring: Tyrone Power, Linda Darnell

The Spanish Empire in 1891. The people are suffering under the oppression of dictatorship. People wouldn't revolt without Zorro's heroic courage.

Friday, Sept. 28

9:10 Midnight Caller

A blind woman witnesses (overhears) the murder of her neighbour. The police wouldn't believe her. So she turns to Jack for help.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Tanamera

Julie is back in Singapore. The Japanese army is advancing. The English citizens leave

the area. Finally, Johnny and Julie are together and all the antagonists are away.

Saturday, Sept. 29

9:00 Encounter

9:30 Classical Music

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film

The George McKenna Story

Starring: Denzel Washington

This is a true story of a black administrator who decided to put things straight at Washington High School, because to him black means beautiful and discipline.

Sunday, Sept. 30

9:10 Documentary

The Four Horsemen

In this episode the same basic theme of this documentary is elaborated upon and citing more examples on how Western arms industry is benefiting from the Third World's markets, where wars flourish.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Thin Air

When Rachel makes sure

that some sort of cooperation Western countries have in existing between the radio-boss and the real estate company boss, she broadcasts the tape, thus causing a stir.

Monday, Oct. 1

9:10 Shannon's Deal

Custody

Shannon, although divorced and does not have custody over his child, does his best in court to grant custody to a woman in a similar condition.

10:00 News In English

10:20 French Feature Film

Une Mère de Trop

Starring: Barbara di Rossi, Sonia Petrosas

An Argentinian woman had to sell her child to an Italian family, neither the mother nor the child could live with the consequences. ...So the mother goes to Italy to try and get the child back... but will it work?

10:00 News In English

10:20 Thin Air

When Rachel makes sure

Western countries have in existing between the radio-boss and the real estate company boss, she broadcasts the tape, thus causing a stir.

Monday, Oct. 1

9:10 Shannon's Deal

Custody

Shannon, although divorced and does not have custody over his child, does his best in court to grant custody to a woman in a similar condition.

10:00 News In English

10:20 French Feature Film

Une Mère de Trop

Starring: Barbara di Rossi, Sonia Petrosas

An Argentinian woman had to sell her child to an Italian family, neither the mother nor the child could live with the consequences. ...So the mother goes to Italy to try and get the child back... but will it work?

10:00 News In English

10:20 Thin Air

When Rachel makes sure

Diagramless

17x17, By Don Johnson

ACROSS
1 Close
2 Health resorts
3 Cut
4 Fr. river
5 Assassain
6 Rings of color
7 Chair
8 Gave out cards
9 Music genre
10 Distort
11 House addition
12 Equal Fr.
DOWN
1 Bed board
2 Fodder
3 Secondhand
4 Field goal worth
5 Wine
6 Section
7 Erist
8 Bluenose
9 Cabbage dish
10 She. Fr.
11 Farm machine
12 City on the
13 Williamette

24 Billy the —
25 Choose
26 Night before a
27 holiday
28 Angered
29 Unsociable
30 Smirk or —
31 Modernizes
32 Wam
33 — as a whistle
34 "One Day At —"
35 Commence
36 FL city
37 Ritzkah's
38 Brother
39 Heavy carts
40 Disinclined
41 Gaped
42 Scavenger
43 The silent Marx
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42 USA dwellers
43 Dwellers
44 Jerk
45 Tazy
46 Piercing tool
47 "For — a jolly"
48 Presidential
49 Cal board
50 That girl
51 Roman
52 statesman
53 Swung around
54 Passenger
55 Bonheur
56 Certain ship
57 Mean
58 Monotonous
59 Folklore
60 Wool greys
61 Sicilian volcano
62 Lasso
63 F. town
64 Unwanted plant
65 Takes on
66 Animal shelter
67 Throw down the
68 gauntlet
69 M. Lacoste
70 Lasse
71 Italia's
72 capital
73 Cut grass
74 Persons — gra

Little-known U.S. writers find a home on British stage

By Matt Wolf
The Associated Press

LONDON — It took a world premiere in Britain for playwright Sally Nemeth to get some attention at home in New York. Now, she says, agents answer her calls.

London has always loved American dramatists, not just greats like Tennessee Williams and Eugene O'Neill, but also the up-and-coming, as Nemeth has discovered.

John Logan is virtually unheard of in the United States, except in his home city of Chicago. But his 1983 play *Never the Sinner* is running on London's West End with an impressive cast headed by Joss Ackland and Julian Glover.

Richard Nelson's off-Broadway play *Some Americans Abroad* was first produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company last summer. The American dramatist's second commission for the British company opens in Stratford-upon-Avon in the autumn.

One reason U.S. playwrights can make it in Britain is that production costs are much lower here than in New York. Another is that critical pressures are less acute. London fields a greater array of equally influential reviewers than New York.

Some U.S. dramatists feel their work strikes more sympathetic chords abroad.

"It's hard to go out on a stylistic limb in the states, although I think that is changing," said Nemeth, 30, whose rather parched, opaque writing style is at odds with much American drama. Her new play, *Mill Fire*, about an explosion at an Alabama steel mill, opened to mixed reviews on March 16 at west London's Riverside Studios.

"I think my plays are somewhat hard to read in that they're very spare. It takes someone who can really read that kind of work to respond to it," she said.

Nemeth has found that someone in director Brian Stiner, the Briton who staged her two London plays.

Richard Nelson's oblique, ironic tone seems more attuned to contemporary British writers than to his U.S. peers.

"The reaction here has

been much more generous, much more understanding," said Nelson, 39, who has had two plays performed by the RSC: *Some Americans Abroad* and *Principia Scriptoriae*.

Both got better reviews in London than in New York. Some Americans Abroad has received an Olivier Award nomination as the year's best comedy. In London, says Nelson, his plays "Have been critically perceived and understood and argued about."

John Logan says his *Never the Sinner* shows an interest in history less evident in American play-writing. In the U.S. theatre, he charges, "we have forgotten our history. We've betrayed it."

He said he did not want to write the kind of personal play that proliferates in the United States.

"I have very little regard for anemic TV theatre — for naturalistic, self-indulgent, sometimes autobiographical drama," he said. Four of Logan's five favourite dramatists are British: Steven Berkoff, Howard Brenton, Caryl Churchill, and Harold Pinter.

A second Chicago writer, Aaron Iverson, wrote a play in 1982 only to find it being premiered, professionally, in London last month.

"I'd had readings of the play done (in Chicago) but no one expressed a whole lot of interest," said Iverson, 32.

Instead, his *Side Pockets* ended its month-long debut run March 3 at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East. Iverson has been commissioned to write a second play for the theatre.

He said the Playhouse, in a blue-collar, ethnically mixed area, reached a public more difficult to attract in the United States. There, he said, "the audience I wait only watches TV and movies."

Iverson, who earns his living as a lawyer, says: "I kind of feel like working-class or poor people aren't really addressed much."

While none of these writers sees Broadway as a goal, few are ready to renounce the United States altogether and move to London, as playwright Martin Sherman (When She Danced, Bent) did over a decade ago.

"I love my country," said Nelson. "I'm American. I love living in America."

White shrugs off image as ladies' man

By Peter Ramjug
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Barry White has been called everything from the "king of love" to the "king of sheet music," but the deep-voiced singer whose songs read like a hit chart of the 1970s says labels are meaningless.

"Names are not important. It's the being behind the name that's important," said the 45-year-old singer.

His first hit in 1972, "Walking in the Rain with the One I Love," launched a string of successes that has resulted in sales of over 100 million records, and, unfortunately for White, an unwanted reputation as a ladies' man.

"Maestro of love," "king of sheet music? What the hell does that mean?" he asks.

"I never wanted to give that image of me, to this day, everybody knew who I was married to," said White, referring to Glodean, his wife of 15 years and mother of their eight children.

But hit songs like "Never, never gonna give you up" (1973), "It's ecstasy when you lay down next to me" (1977) and "Your sweetness in my weakness" (1978), reinforced this kind of image.

Female fans at White's concerts have been known to

throw hotel and house keys onto the stage. "One lady took her brassiere off in front of the public," he says.

These people, White adds, have the wrong image of him.

He regards himself as being nothing more than a catalyst in the "boy gets girl" scheme of love.

"My image of me is that Barry White is a friend to the guys who use his music to catch the girl."

While his baritone ballads have become a trademark of sorts, White chose not to rely as heavily on slow songs on his latest album, "Barry White: the man is back," his first LP in three years, includes many up-tempo beats and dance rhythms.

"I had to capture that young-sounding thing plus the traditional Barry White thing... I tried to merge the old wisdom with the new knowledge."

When asked if he was afraid he might lose one audience to satisfy another, he said, "those audiences are going to move on, but there's always a new audience. If you're serious about your craft, they will come to you."

"The man is back" is an interesting, nine-song mix of violins, flutes, and computerised drum machines.

Broadway season not yet open, yet controversy already behind it

By Michael Kuchwara
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The new Broadway season doesn't get under way until early October, a little later than usual, but already there has been a lot of drama off stage.

The theatrics concerned Miss Saigon and whether the hit London musical will open in New York as scheduled next April. Producer Cameron Mackintosh scrapped the engagement, despite a record

\$25 million in advance sales, after Actors' Equity refused to let the show's white British star, Jonathan Pryce, appear here in the role of a Eurasian pimp.

The union barred Pryce because it said it could not "appear to condone the casting of a Caucasian in the role of a Eurasian." After protests from its members, Equity reversed its decision.

Now Mackintosh and Equity are talking "in an effort to establish a working rela-

tionship" that could result in the musical coming to New York. Don't count Miss Saigon out just yet.

The controversy has overshadowed the season's other musicals, most of them lacking in star power.

Seven musicals are expected to open before Christmas, including *Shogun*, another big Far East song-and-dance saga. Based on James Clavell's mammoth novel, the show tells of the romance between an English

sea captain and a Japanese woman. Peter Karrie and June Angela Star. John Driver did the book and lyrics. Paul Chihara supplied the music. The opening is set for Nov. 15 at the Marquis Theatre.

Another exotic musical, *Once On This Island*, arrives on Oct. 18 at the Booth Theatre. The show, with Book and Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens and music by Stephen Flaherty, is a Caribbean fairy tale about a young peasant

girl and the son of a wealthy landowner.

Rock 'N' roll legend Buddy Holly gets his own musical, appropriately titled *Buddy*. It opens on Nov. 4 at the Shubert Theatre. Holly died in 1959 at the age of 22 in a plane crash. The musical, which is running in London, stars Paul Hipp as the teen idol.

Peter Pan flies back to town for performances beginning Dec. 11 at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre. This time around the boy who never grew up will be played by gymnast Cathy Rigby. She reportedly not only flies across the stage but out over the audience, too.

Another musical revival will be *Oh, Kay*, the 1920s George and Ira Gershwin classic, with an all-black cast. The show, best known for its songs *Someone to Watch Over Me*, *Do, Do, Do* and *Maybe*, opens Oct. 25 at the Richard Rodgers Theatre.

New plays will be in short supply on Broadway this fall. The season's first of three dramatic offerings will be *Stand-Up Tragedy* by Bill Cain. The play concerns and idealistic high school teacher on New York's Lower East Side. Jack Coleman of *Dynasty* fame plays the teacher.

Marcus Chong portrays one of the students he tries to save. It has an Oct. 4 premiere at the Criterion Centre.

John Guare's *Six Degrees Of Separation*, which opened in June at the tiny Mitzi Newhouse Theatre in Lincoln Centre, moves to the Broadway-size Vivian Beaumont Theatre on Nov. 8. The play is about a young black man who finagles his way into several wealthy Manhattan households.

The stars are Stockard Channing and John Cunningham, who play the glib hosts. Courtney B. Vance is the clever intruder.

Nigel Hawthorne and Jane Alexander star in "Shadowlands," William Nicholson's retelling of the love story of author C.S. Lewis and Joy Davidman. A London suc-

cess, it opens Nov. 11 at the Brooks Atkinson Theatre.

The fall's lone play revival will be Moliere's *The Miser*, starring Philip Bosco and Carole Shelley. The comedy opens in early October at Circle in the Square.

Two one-man productions of comedy and music are also planned. Michael Feinstein sings and plays George and Ira Gershwin, Rodgers and Hart, Irving Berlin and other classic songwriters in his show *Piano and Voice*. The opening is Oct. 2 at the Golden Theatre. Jackie Mason returns to Broadway on Oct. 11 at the Neil Simon Theatre with a new edition of his comedy routines that wowed New York several seasons ago.

After New Year's, two major musicals are scheduled to arrive, one off-Broadway. Nick and Nora, a reworking of *The Thin Man* movie series from the 1930s and 1940s, stars Barry Bostwick as the suave detective and Joanna Gleason as his sophisticated wife. The book and direction are by Arthur Laurents, the music by Charles Strouse and the lyrics by Richard Maltby Jr. Look for the show in February at a theatre to be announced.

Also planned for early 1991 is *Assassins*, the new Stephen Sondheim musical about presidential killers. The book is by John Weidman who wrote *Pacific Overtures* with Sondheim. Preview performances begin on Dec. 18 with an opening scheduled for sometime in January at off-Broadway's Playwrights Horizons.

Among the other play possibilities for later in the season are *Doublecross*, a thriller by Washington lawyer Gary Channing and John Cunningham, and *Lost In Yonkers*, a new work by Neil Simon.

Other musical candidates include *Fame*, about students at New York's high school of performing arts, and *Heart's Desire*, based on four short stories by writers such as Armistead Maupin and Treva Silverman.

The secret of Egyptian paintings

By Jacques Bandeneau

HOW did the artists paint the walls of the pharaohs' temples, which tools did they use and why have these works deteriorated?

Daniel le Fur, who is in charge of the preservation and restoration laboratory at the Franco-Egyptian Centre of the Karnak Temples has attempted to reply to these questions.

The walls, which are often fragile, have deteriorated all the more since 1850, when the rubble was cleared from the temples. Since then, a considerable amount of the decoration has disappeared. In addition to the climate and the quality of the support, sparrows, wasps, bats and dealers have contributed to the damage.

Meticulous research, based on successive excavations, has made it possible to find the pigments used by the Egyptian and Coptic artists, in particular Jarosite (basic iron and potassium sulphate) producing a yellow pigment, with acacia gum as a binding agent.

By examining many uncompleted pictures, one can follow the different stages of the work. On a plastered wall, the artist sketched the series of squares which determined the proportions of figures and hieroglyphics, using a brush



The picture of King Thot at Thebes is one of the Pharaonic paintings found in Egypt.

or by beating the wall with a rope soaked in red ochre. This preparatory drawing in red was, if need be, gone over in black.

The painter then worked in flat colours on top of which he superposed the details. On certain supports, the patterns and decorations could be carved and covered in plaster, limestone powder and sand.

The mineral pigments, which were more or less crushed, were blended with the binding agent in a little water. The painter no doubt only prepared his mixture at

the last minute and he applied it with small fibrous plam wood sticks, one for each colour.

Attempts at cleaning, which were first made in the temple of Thutmose III, showed that the organic solvents and the chemical solutions risked attacking the pigments and penetrating the layer of the picture.

The solution chosen was that of pulverising the pictures with dry micro-particles whose nature, granulometry, shape and hardness, as well as the nozzle-dia-

meter, air-pressure, distance and angle of projection had been calculated to give optimal treatment.

After being cleaned in this way, the pictures are fixed with an acrylic resin which sinks into the original substances and thereby protects them. Nearly a thousand square metres have already been treated in this way.

Students from the restoration department of the Beaux-Arts (Fine Arts) school in Avignon took part in this work — L. Actualite en France.

Anger fuels painter's creativity

By Heidi Munan

SARAWAK, Malaysia — Life goes slow in a semi-urban kampung, as Malaysian villages are called. Children are allowed to play and roam the coconut groves and fields. Their elders teach them good manners and religion, but don't push too hard when it comes to going to school. A young boy can have a very easy time.

Yusuf Ghani did not go for the soft life, even as a youth. Now known throughout South East Asia for his paintings and abstract art creations, he recalls being a restless child given to asking endless questions and who scribbled, painted and drew throughout his school days.

As a teenager, he earned pocket money by selling cartoons to a local newspaper. Sometimes he hawked decorated bamboo containers and wood slices in the "pasar malam," this uniquely Malaysian institution of after-dark open-air strolling and eating at stalls lit by kerosene lamps.

Though grieved to disappoint his parents, Ghani was reluctant to take on "respectable" work when he left school in 1967. Creating art, he believed, was the only way to live. He knew he wanted to be an artist — "when I was old enough to know anything," he says.

He worked as an illustrator with a publisher, then for the Ministry of Agriculture — "you know, 'prevent mosquitoes breeding' pamphlets and that sort of stuff," he explains. Later, he taught technical drawing and made still slides for a commercial TV company. "You can make a living with art," he notes, "but I was waiting all the time, trying to learn."

His chance came when he won a scholarship to the United States in 1980. Shunning the potentially more lucrative field of graphic design, Ghani opted for painting, in which he felt there is greater creative freedom.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from George Mason University of Virginia, and a Master's Degree from the Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Although proud of the diplomas, he says a very important part of his education was to learn to express himself; he was used to being different, but back home that often meant inferior. In Washington, the intense young man with a mobile face and agile hands found himself accepted.

As a lover of debate and discussion, he waded deeply into the currents of opinion edifying about his contemporaries. Subjects went from art to politics, social justice, war, famine, torture... When a group called the Artists' Corps staged furious protests against U.S. involvement in Nicaragua, Ghani was in the thick of it. "It is everybody's business," he argues. "Do you know how dictators come to power? Because it isn't anybody's business to stop them, that's how!"

For his artistic debut among the connoisseurs and glitterati of Washington he picked the subject of hunger. Drawing from his cross-cultural experiences, he evoked the pain and terror of it on canvas. Critic Joanne Lewis of the Washington Post described the paintings as "haunting evocations of the outrageous facts of life... that should haunt everyone."

Possibly the most provoking canvas in his first one-man show was a picture of a child in the last stages of starvation

and a fashionably slim socialite, side by side. Caption: "I lost 30 lbs."

The impact of such work was clearly felt in Washington, but when he returned to Malaysia in 1984, they were rejected for an exhibit at the National Art Gallery and dismissed as "too Western." Argues the artist: "I don't think those canvases were too Western, they were simply not the sort of thing that was done in Malaysia at the time. Art was supposed to be pretty or patriotic, not disturbing."

Things have changed since then. Prolific and ever-changing, Ghani has held exhibitions every year, sometimes two or three a year since 1980, mainly in Malaysia, but also in the U.S., Bangladesh and Iraq. In 1985, he earned UNICEF's "Art Asia Major Award."

Ghani has learned to tone down: Working full-time as a lecturer since 1984 at the Mara Institute of Technology (MIT) in Shah Alam, near the capital Kuala Lumpur, and looking after his four children leaves him little time for philosophical discussions. But this does not mean he is turning out. The artist expresses the same deep feelings in different ways. One of his recent creations consists of a series of paintings called *Siri Tari* (dance series) in which he depicts figures leaping and twirling, bending and writhing.

At first glance, the paintings are all beauty and subtle colours, but a closer look reveals some figures suffering, others threatening or projecting anger from the canvas. Sometimes Ghani uses the brush as a weapon, slamming layer upon layer of vivid, shouting colour that gives depth of feeling to the seemingly innocuous dancing

figures. "I think about things when I paint, and it they are bad or unjust, I feel angry," he says.

Despite its potency which might have made it unpalatable to some, "Siri Tari" has earned a warm welcome among the Malaysian public.

Ghani has experimented with other mediums, most recently working on paper rather than canvas, but also creating three-dimensional pictures and other structures. His first try consisted of thousands of small pieces of coloured cellophane strung together on long threads to create what looks like a brilliant, shimmering, endlessly vibrating waterfall of colour.

The installation ripples with every breeze and breath. It catches the sun, refracts it and throws dapples of multicoloured light against a white wall. "It's energy!" Ghani exclaims with a smile, "even a big amount of force is made up of lots of little drips and drops of energy, each a unit with itself."

In many ways, energy is what art is to Ghani. He uses a great deal of it when he works. He needs a large space, music at top volume and friends around him while he paints. The sounds of furious discussions from the studio do not mean the brush rests. Typically, Ghani will be painting with one hand and stabbing the air with his everlasting cigarette as he makes his point.

"He doesn't paint," a friend comments, laughing, "he attacks the canvas. He cuts, slashes, bites — he ought to be exhausted when he's finished."

Retorts the painter: "But I also get a lot of energy from painting" — which may explain why he often works on



Yusuf Ghani does not paint, he attacks the canvas, comments a friend of the artist.

more than one canvas at a time.

Although very self-confident, Ghani admits he was nervous for his first one-man show. "People were coming to this exhibition to judge me. I wasn't worried that my work wouldn't be good enough. I know it is. But how could I know whether they could understand? I am trying to tell them something but suppose they get it all wrong?"

For many artists, this is probably the most nagging question. But whether the public understands his work or not, Ghani is forging ahead. He is currently preparing an exhibition at the Singa-

pore National Art Gallery, where he has shown before. "Wait until you see all the stuff I am doing for the Singapore show. I'll go right back to protest painting!" he exclaims. "I'm going to show them something different. It used to be all movement, now I'm working on form."

"An artist who has found a successful style and sticks to it is committing suicide," he adds. "Not economically — people who like that particular genre will buy it, but his creativity will wither, he might as well pay somebody to make copies of his works, over and over." — World News Link.



Former French Minister of Social Affairs and current president of the Red Cross Georgina Dufoux

Former French minister leads the anti-drug crusade

By Claire Thierry

At the head of the new anti-drug delegation, Georgina Dufoux, a former minister of social affairs and president of the French Red Cross, has been working hard over the past few months. She assures us that, while being discreet, her work is effective. She presents the main lines of her national plan.

Question: The Anti-Drug Delegation has been at work since December 1989. What results have you obtained?
G. Dufoux: I am not Zorro! I only hope to do better than my predecessors. And my successors will do better than me. What counts is continuity. But we needed a plan, organisation and a will. The will existed: it grew stronger. As for organising the fight... the government asked me to coordinate the whole of its anti-drug policy. I see to it that information circulates among the ministries (about a dozen are concerned) and that action taken by the different administrative bodies is coherent. I see to it that the funds at my disposal (200 million francs this year) are put to effective use. Thus, in a few months, we have given new dynamism to the services working separately.

Q. — You mentioned a plan.
G.D. — On May 9, Prime Minister Michel Rocard presented the "national plan of action" prepared by the delegation. It is a document of method and specifies where, with whom and how we do battle. It comprises some forty measures, dealing with the development of prevention and help for drug-addicts, the reinforcement of the repression of drug-traffickers, particularly economic repression, and international cooperation.

Q. — Rather belated cooperation...
G.D. — It is being set up and gathering pace. In July 1989, at the summit of the seven industrialised nations, President Mitterrand gave a new impetus to the fight against narcotics. The United Nations then adopted a world programme and a Financial Action Group (GAFI) was set up under the presidency of France. From proposals made by this group, our Minister of Finance drew up an "anti-laundering" bill which is part of the plan presented on May 9. Finally, a European Anti-Drug Committee (CELAD), which I preside over, was created at the instigation of the head of state. The important work accomplished by the delegates from each country will, I think, lead to a European plan next June.

Q. — Is France going to ratify the Vienna Convention of December 1988 with a view to fighting against drug-trafficking?
G.D. — We shall ratify it this year. Beforehand, we have to adapt our legislation on mutual judicial aid. One of the articles of the convention make it possible to confiscate possessions owned by a drug-trafficker in one country at the request of another signatory state. This procedure is not authorised by our penal code.

Q. — The "national plan of action" above all aims at developing what exists. Are there any innovations?
G.D. — The creation of an observatory of drugs. This social and health database, which we are creating, will come into operation in 1992. But I would like to emphasise the importance of our effort in prevention and care. From next autumn, a national system of information by telephone and minitel will be available to the public. We are also going to create fifty new centres for receiving families and young people and set up twenty "pilot prevention sites" in risk areas. By the end of 1991, the number of beds reserved for drug-addicts will have doubled.

Q. — A different policy from that led by the United States concerning users?
G.D. — Our approach is opposed to a pure policy of repression consumption, which is a failure in the United States. We give priority to helping drug-addicts, who are sick people rather than delinquents. We thus encourage law courts to prefer reintegrating addicts in society rather than incarcerating them. Other countries are coming round to this way of seeing things.
Q. — Are you optimistic for the future?
G.D. — The number of "hooked" drug-addicts in France is estimated at 150,000. It is too many, but it is few compared to other countries. By combining severe repression of traffic and prevention, as we are doing, I believe we can avoid a catastrophe like in America. This implies working in the field, every day, with all those who can act on the main causes of drug-addiction: idleness, unemployment, delapidated housing, failure at school... That is why we are giving new impetus to the network of associations in order to cover the territory with a mesh of them.

Q. — Will you be launching any anti-drug campaigns?
G.D. — I doubt their effectiveness. They are alibi campaigns. If I did not do any, I would be reproached. But I will launch few campaigns as they are expensive. Young people have to be convinced in another way.
Q. — How can one dissuade them?
G.D. — By school. By the family. Fighting the need for drugs means finding a meaning to life and giving new enthusiasm for life. It is not something which is decreed by the cabinet. Why do young people take drugs? Every generation seeks an antidote to its anxieties. Our parents did not use drugs. They sought refuge more in alcohol. For teenagers today, drugs are the easiest escape and also the most dangerous as they are quickly addictive. Parents must listen to their children and talk about their problems, recreating real communication in the family — L'Actualite en France.

By Claire Thierry

PARIS — Drugs destroy, pollute and kill more and more often. Money from drug-trafficking corrupts governments and gangsters economies.

In France, a country which has been relatively protected, figures show a worrying rise in consumption. The number of deaths from an overdose has risen from 236 in 1988 to 318 in 1989. Drug hauls reach record amounts: 938 kilos of cocaine seized last year (57 per cent over 1988) and 300 kilos of heroin (34 per cent).

In early May, the French anti-drug squad (OCRCITIS) had one of its biggest hauls (350 kilos of cocaine, hidden in hessian bags) and arrested eight Colombian drug-traffickers in Saint-Martin airport in the French West Indies. This area has become the centre for South-American coke going to Europe.

Is drug-trafficking and use on the rise, or is the French anti-drug squad more efficient? Experts prudently consider it is both. According to them, France only has 150,000 drug-addicts, or 0.3 per cent of the population. This is low compared to the 10 per cent counted in the United States (one American in ten), but it is still too many and particularly so as three-quarters of drug-addicts in France are young people under 30. Many take cannabis and heroin. The latter accounts for 87 per cent of deaths and numerous cases of seropositivity through using infected hypodermic needles.

Today, new dreaded substances are appearing on the French market: crack, made from cocaine (a few cases have been noted in the French, West Indies and in the Paris region), some medicines misapplied in their use or amphetamine derivatives such as "ecstasy", in vogue in so-called "with it" circles.

For parents, drugs have become the main danger threatening their children. It is also a threat to the economic and political stability of states. Profits from the sale of cocaine, heroin and cannabis in Europe and in the United States are believed to amount to \$85 billion a year. This estimate has been made by the Financial Action Group (GAFI), created at the summit of the seven wealthiest nations in July 1989 in Paris.

The 130 experts from 15 countries making up this group, presided over by Pierre Berégovoy, the French minister of finance, drew up forty recommendations aimed at preventing narco-dollars from being recycled in legal financial circuits.

War on drugs has thus been declared with general mobilisation. In France, in order to coordinate the whole of its anti-drug policy, the government has set up an interministerial delegation, under the authority of Georgina Dufoux, a former minister and the present president of the French Red Cross. The result is an overall plan, presented by Prime Minister Michel Rocard on May 9.

The fight against drug-traffickers thus takes the form of active international cooperation, particularly in the area of international legal aid and the collation of information on traffic. French penal law is going to be modified so as to enable a foreign country to confiscate a trafficker's possessions in France. This will make it possible to ratify the

Vienna Convention on Drugs (December 1988). An "anti-laundering" law for "dirty money", announced in May 1990, will force all French financial institutions and their foreign subsidiaries to declare any suspicious operation to the public authorities and to more closely control the identity of their customers.

Two new specialised services now hunt for drug-traffickers: The TRACFIN, an office of the Ministry of the Economy, in charge of blocking and checking dubious financial transactions, and the Central Office for the Repression of Big Financial Delinquency (OCRGDF), a super-brigade of thirty police officers attached to the Ministry of the Interior.

The first aspect of the fight against drugs is thus repression in all its forms. The second aspect is greater prevention, and help for drug-addicts. This unspectacular painstaking work is carried out by teachers, doctors, judges, the police, social workers and associations. They inform, talk with young people and are on the watch in places where the risk is greatest, for instance in underprivileged areas with a

high unemployment rate. They help drug-addicts to kick the habit and to become integrated in society again. Their fight is based on a principle: before being a delinquent, a drug-addict is a sick person.

With repression and prevention, control and help, the "French experience" is now being copied in other countries, particularly in Europe — L'Actualite en France.



Drugs — the number one menace

Vienna Convention on Drugs (December 1988). An "anti-laundering" law for "dirty money", announced in May 1990, will force all French financial institutions and their foreign subsidiaries to declare any suspicious operation to the public authorities and to more closely control the identity of their customers.

Two new specialised services now hunt for drug-traffickers: The TRACFIN, an office of the Ministry of the Economy, in charge of blocking and checking dubious financial transactions, and the Central Office for the Repression of Big Financial Delinquency (OCRGDF), a super-brigade of thirty police officers attached to the Ministry of the Interior.

The first aspect of the fight against drugs is thus repression in all its forms. The second aspect is greater prevention, and help for drug-addicts. This unspectacular painstaking work is carried out by teachers, doctors, judges, the police, social workers and associations. They inform, talk with young people and are on the watch in places where the risk is greatest, for instance in underprivileged areas with a

high unemployment rate. They help drug-addicts to kick the habit and to become integrated in society again. Their fight is based on a principle: before being a delinquent, a drug-addict is a sick person.

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Asthma deaths rise despite new drugs, improved treatment

By Catherine Arnst
Reuter

LONDON — Asthma, the most widespread chronic disease in the industrialised world, is striking and killing more people every year despite huge advances in its treatment and understanding.

Study after study shows that the incidence, severity and death rate for asthma has been steadily rising over the last decade throughout Europe and the United States.

"Unlike all other diseases, with asthma an increase in the use of modern drugs and therapy has occurred along with an increase in death rates and hospitalisation," said Professor Ian Rodger, a respiratory specialist with the University of Strathclyde in Scotland.

Medical specialists are at a loss to explain the correlation. Several studies have suggested links with air pollution, exposure to smoking and poverty, but the disease is prevalent in rural areas as well as cities.

Some five to 10 per cent of the population throughout Europe and North America suffers from asthma, and studies have shown that as many as one in five schoolchildren have the disease.

Fourteen countries have shown a gradual increase in death rates among five- to 35-year-old sufferers since the mid-1970s, according to Britain's office of health economics.

Doctors are hoping that the 1990s will bring a reversal in the trend, thanks to a number of promising new drugs expected to reach the market in the next year. However, no

one expects an ultimate cure or discovery of the cause in the near future.

Instead, doctors are focusing on improving quality of life and day-to-day management of the disease, with an emphasis on patient education as much as pharmaceutical AIDS.

Quality of life is a critical issue for asthma sufferers, who for years were mistakenly barred from exercise, accused of being over-emotional and prescribed drugs the side-effects of which were as serious as the symptoms of the disease.

Asthma can be hard to diagnose and even define, because attacks are unpredictable. For unknown reasons, its victims have hypersensitive respiratory systems. When irritated, the airways become inflamed and constrict, preventing the patient from exhaling.

The lungs fill with air in much the same way a drowning person's lung fill with water. A mild attack could mean wheezing and coughing. A severe attack if untreated could lead to complete respiratory failure and death.

Attacks can be set off by allergic reactions, infections, or irritants such as dust or house mites. But for as many as 50 per cent of adult sufferers, attacks occur for no apparent reason at all.

Researchers believe there may be a genetic component to the disease, but it is difficult to isolate because of the erratic pattern of occurrence. About 50 per cent of asthma sufferers develop the disease in childhood, another one third before the age of 40 and the rest even later in life.

Until very recently, asthma was considered a bronchial disease, which meant that treatment was aimed primarily at relieving or preventing the symptom — airway restriction.

Asthma is now recognised as an inflammatory disease that involves a number of the body's defence mechanisms, and doctors are placing greater emphasis on preventing the inflammation that restricts

the airways in the first place. A major contribution to this change in treatment, doctors said, was the introduction of low-dosage inhaled steroids, anti-inflammatory agents that can be delivered with an inhaler directly to the lungs.

Steroids in pill form have been used to treat asthma since the 1950s, but carry with them serious side effects, including bloating, weakening of the bones, high blood pressure and liver failure. When steroids are inhaled only 10 per cent of the drug enters the blood stream, keeping side effects to a minimum.

"Inhaled steroids are one of the best tools we have today," said Professor Anne Tatterfield, a respiratory specialist with Nottingham City Hospital in Britain.

However, the most common drugs prescribed for asthma sufferers, and the first line of defence used against the disease, are Bronchodilators. These are sprayed into the throat at the time of an

attack to open the airway. Bronchodilators now in use work less than six hours, providing only temporary relief. But doctors believe two improved versions in clinical trials will have a major impact on treatment of the disease once they are available.

Researchers said Sal-meterol from Glaxo and Formoterol from Ciba-Geigy will give users relief from asthmatic symptoms for up to 12 hours with a single inhalation. "This will almost certainly change the face of asthma," one medical researcher said.

Doctors are also beginning to study whether early, intensive treatment of children or adults who first show signs of asthma can alleviate long term problems.

So far there is no evidence that the course of the disease can be altered by treatment, but Professor Peter Barnes of Britain's National Heart and Lung Institute said evidence is mounting to suggest that steroids given when patients are first diagnosed may be effective in preventing persistent disease.

By comparison, Britain is spending \$21.17 million over the two years, the European Community (EC) is contributing \$19.6 million and Japan \$2.27 million.

The U.S. effort is headed by Dr. James Watson, a Nobel laureate for his 1953 co-discovery of the double helix structure of DNA, the building block of all life.

Watson sent tremors through the scientific community last year when he told Congress that access to research on the genome should be made available only to those countries willing to contribute funds to the project.

Japan, whom Watson was particularly critical of, has since set up its own genome programme, and some European researchers want their own database separate from Johns Hopkins.

Members of the European Molecular Biology Laboratory in Heidelberg, West Germany, want the EC to set up a European institute of bioinformatics, to prevent the United States from gaining a monopoly on gathering and disseminating information.

Victor McKusick, a professor of biology at Johns Hopkins and one of the founders of the genome initiative, said it was inevitable that national interests would influence the research.

"I think there is a need for national and regional programmes, because the facts of life are that is where the funding comes from," he said.

But McKusick thought the competition might speed up the progress, and said he was confident that the competition would not interfere with cooperation, including free access to information stored in the United States.

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Global project to map human genes testing scientific cooperation

By Catherine Arnst
Reuter

OXFORD, England — A global project to identify all the genes in the human body is proving a test of whether scientists can work for the benefit of mankind without tripping over national interests.

The human genome initiative is expected to cost at least \$3 billion over the next 15 years as scientists around the world work together to unlock the secret of human life.

The project is expected to revolutionise the treatment of disease and doctors' understanding of how the body works.

The genome is the sum total of all the genetic instructions and other bits of DNA that make up the human body — some three billion molecular

groups, including 50,000 to 100,000 genes.

Geneticists at a recent workshop here said they were delighted with the slow but steady progress they were making in mapping out the genome.

However, the two-year-old project is beginning to stir some controversy over who will pay for the work and who will benefit from the lucrative patents expected to result from it.

Once scientists have their gene map, with all the genes identified and pinpointed, they expect to be able to diagnose and treat thousands of currently incurable genetic diseases, such as down's syndrome, Alzheimer's disease, muscular dystrophy and cystic fibrosis.

The work is extremely slow going. There are at least 24

committees trying to point the going. There are at least 24 committees trying to pinpoint the information the body needs to make a specific molecule for a specific purpose.

At the end of the week-long workshop attended by more than 140 geneticists, the organisers announced that 56 new genes had been documented since a year earlier, for a total of 2,052 — some three per cent of the total.

More importantly, the scientists successfully tested a full working computer network that will be used to store all the global research on the genome. With the database active and researchers in agreement on how the information will be codified, organisers said the work should proceed faster.

This is the first "mega-project" to involve biology, requiring the cooperation of researchers from around the world more used to working alone or in small groups.

It also needs a degree of trust and cooperation between governments and scientists, because the genome initiative requires that each time a piece of DNA is identified it must be submitted to a publicly accessible database, often before patent applications can be filed.

The United States has the largest role in the project, a situation that is causing some nervousness among its Japanese and European partners.

The main computer database for storing findings is located at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and the U.S. Congress has authorised funding of \$241 million for this year and next.

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Efforts

(Continued from page 1)

create a suitable climate based on the comprehensiveness and universality of human rights and on the adherence to international legitimacy as constituted by the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations.

Despite the injustice and frustration suffered by the peoples of the Middle East region, they remain more anxious to enhance the role of the United Nations and to strengthen it in all spheres, especially where it is concerned with peace-making and peace-keeping. The end of the cold war has brought about hopes that the absence of rivalry between the Superpowers would lead to directing all efforts to working in a United Nations context. However, there are indications that certain powers may deal with the recent positive developments with a sense of victory and see in them a reason for increasing their own attempts at hegemonism and exploitation in a way that would spread the benefits of international détente to all humanity and lead to the supremacy of the principles of law, justice and equality in this world.

Mr. President,

Our region and the whole world live, nowadays, in a state of high tension as a result of the crisis in the Gulf. Jordan has called for and worked towards the settlement of this crisis in a way that conforms to the principles of the League of Nations and prevents the continuous drift towards a military explosion which threatens the security of the area and puts it face to face with a certain catastrophe and endangers international peace and security.

Out of this sense of the danger surrounding the area and its peoples, His Majesty King Hussein has, from the moment the crisis broke out, made and continues to make, together with other Arab leaders, sincere and strenuous efforts to find a peaceful solution to this crisis.

Jordan, as a civilized country that respects its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, does not approve of the resort to force as a way of solving differences between states, nor does it accept the occupation of the land of another state or support or recognize any demographic or political changes resulting from war in our area or anywhere in the world. Accordingly, Jordan did not recognize the decision to annex Kuwait. It called and continues to call for the restoration of legitimacy in this Arab country through withdrawal therefrom and followed by finding a peaceful solution to the differences between Iraq and Kuwait within the Arab context.

It is regrettable to see that the efforts made to solve the crisis at its beginning, within its regional context, have not been given sufficient opportunity and support. Some have even tried to thwart them, which led to a quick worsening of the situation in such a way that brought about a mutual escalation which, in turn, increased the rigidity of positions and made the whole region face grim prospects. Now, several weeks after the outbreak of the crisis, we are more convinced that its solution will come only through sincere and serious efforts by the Arab states, which efforts should be given international support and backing, in order to avoid a tragedy whose effects will not be confined to one party alone.

This does not at all mean that we see a contradiction between what we and other Arab states and others are calling for, i.e. that the settlement should be found within a pan-Arab context, and the efforts that may be made by the international community — of which we are part — in a United Nations context and in accordance with its Charter. We believe that these two efforts should complement and facilitate one another.

The fact that we live in the Middle East region makes us more sensitive to the dangers of explosion of the situation there, in view of the weapons of mass destruction that exist therein, whether in the hands of regional parties or brought in with the huge foreign military buildup which has been continuous since the start of the crisis. This constitutes an additional incentive for us not to hesitate in making efforts to save the peoples of the area and the future generations from the dangers of an armed conflict which, if it took place, will acquire unimaginable dimensions. We hope that everybody will appreciate that we have not taken our position on this crisis and its dangerous ramifications in order to please this or that party. We took it in keeping with our adherence to our principles and our determination to safeguard the security and safety of the countries and peoples of the area. In this context, we cannot but be astonished at the nervous reactions, of which we hear and whose effects we feel, to our principled stand that rejects the occupation of the territory of others by force while, at the same time, we continue to work towards a peaceful and honorable solution to this crisis.

We are directly affected by the severe negative consequences of this crisis in such a way that does not permit us to ignore it or look at it with indifference.

Our compliance with Security Council Resolution 661 (1980) in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter. We cannot treat it selectively or seasonally. Jordan has declared its compliance with the recent resolutions of the council on this crisis. Hence our implementation of Security Council Resolution imposing sanctions on Iraq, in spite of its devastating effects on our national economy which threaten Jordan now and in the future in all walks of life.

We were the first state to request consultations with the Security Council regarding the particular economic difficulties which will occur as a result

of our compliance with Security Council Resolution 661 (1980) in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter. It is unfortunate that we see some who want to use this as a means to exercise pressure on us and compel us to support positions and policies that we believe will bring destruction to the region.

We hope the international community will appreciate the major economic difficulties that our economy faces as a result of the crisis. In addition to the burdens resulting from our compliance with Resolution 661, we started to suffer from worsening conditions as a result of humanitarian problems that beset Jordanians working in Kuwait and other places, who have lost all their belongings home in growing numbers.

Jordan also faces the influx of hundreds of thousands of persons of other nationalities coming from Iraq and Kuwait. Helping these vast numbers of people imposes very heavy burdens on our economy cannot support. It is regrettable that all this happens at the time that we face a state very similar to that of siege. Jordan, in the face of the crisis and its overall effects, has no choice but to continue making efforts, together with other Arab States and others, to prevent a military confrontation and prepare the ground for creating a climate conducive to reaching a permanent solution to the crisis that will guarantee the interest of all parties and enable them to shoulder their responsibility towards the region and its resources which we recognize as important to human civilization, in such a way as to guarantee peace-making and peace-keeping in the region, free from all formalism and pretence for foreign presence. We would like to emphasize that sincere, objective and unbiased Arab participation must be an integral part of any solution offered by the United Nations for this crisis, because we firmly believe that any solution imposed from outside will have no chance of success whatsoever.

Mr. President

On the other side of the Middle East region where, despite the elapse of 23 years since its adoption by the Security Council, another resolution, namely resolution 242 (1967), still remains unimplemented, Israel continues, to this very day, to occupy the territories from which the Security Council has demanded their withdrawal. The Palestinian people continue to live under most brutal kind of colonialism, despite numerous resolutions adopted by the Council condemning various aspects of that colonialism, from its annexation of Arab Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights, to the establishment of settlements on Palestinian territories and the acts of oppression, including the deportation of Palestinians from their land, as part of a scheme designed to vacate the land of its people. Neither have any of those resolutions found its way to implementation. Israel had found friends willing not only to help it in not implementing the resolutions of the Security Council, but also in hindering its work and paralyzing its ability to take decisions on the subject, thus making it difficult for the Council to convene, if only to discuss the situation in the occupied territories.

This encouraged Israel to persist in its colonialist plans, the themes and contents of which are no longer championed by extremist or marginal groups, but have become the official-declared policy of the Israeli Government. The policy guidelines that constitute the plan of the present government in Israel, as announced this past June, states that "the eternal right of the Jewish people in (Eretz) Israel is not subject to question. It is intertwined with its right to peace and security." Bearing in mind that the definition of the so-called "Eretz Israel" includes at least the State of Israel and the Palestinian territories occupied in 1967, it becomes clear that Israel has thus negated the very foundation on which all the peace efforts of the past two decades were based, namely the formula for exchanging the occupied territories for peace.

Israel has also seen in the recent international developments an opportunity to effect a sweeping and definitive demographic change in the occupied territories by utilizing the options open to Jews emigrating from the Soviet Union and ensuring that their only destination would be Israel, in preparation for resettling them in the occupied territories when conditions become propitious. It should also be recalled that Israel's Prime Minister had already declared that "immigration is a great matter which requires the existence of a greater Israel."

While recognizing that the freedom to emigrate from the Soviet Union and other Eastern European States was the result of internal developments in those societies, one should not, however, fail to remember the tremendous pressures and continuous efforts exerted by Israel and its supporters to ensure that all emigrants go to Israel which regards them as a major tool in carrying out its expansionist schemes.

Thus, while we welcome the recent positive developments in the Soviet Union and the East European States, we view the fact of making the Palestinian people bear the consequences of that immigration to their land as another historic injustice to them, which is even in contravention to the very text and instruments of which the right to migration is based, in particular the Helsinki Declaration and the agreements pertaining thereto, which include the right of a person to leave his country and return to it. Therefore, it is only logical that the Palestinians should question the legitimacy of the immigration of citizens of other states to their land, when they are being expelled from it and never allowed to return thereto.

In the absence of a peaceful, comprehensive and durable solution to the question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict, the continuation of this immigration constitutes a violation of the rights of the Palestinian people to their national homeland and a threat to the national security of neighbouring states. Ulti-

mately, it will encourage the ruling circles in Israel to vacate the occupied territories of their indigenous inhabitants and replace them with the large numbers of immigrants; particularly since the limited natural resources of the area could severely limit its absorptive capacity, thus increasing the possibility of Israel carrying out a plan for the mass expulsion of Palestinians from their homeland.

Mr. President,

Ever since their national tragedy began, the Palestinian people have proven that it is impossible for them to abandon their legitimate national rights. They continued to confront the repressive Israeli machinery with endless sacrifices in order to achieve their goal of self-determination and national independence on their soil, like all other peoples. Their struggle reached its peak in the past three years, through their continuing popular uprising, Intifada, against the Israeli occupation which, in dealing with that Intifada, unmasked the real face of Israel and laid bare its un-founded claims to democracy and respect of human rights. It also proved that the logic of might and the desire for expansionism dominate the Israeli thinking which still regards the Intifada as a matter of security rather than a political issue representing the revolt of a people aspiring for independence with whom Israel must come to terms in order to find the appropriate political settlement.

Against this backdrop Israeli occupation constitutes an anomaly, indeed an anachronism in this era which is witnessing the end of colonialism in a budding atmosphere of freedom and democracy. It is regrettable that the peace process in the Middle East should have come to a complete standstill even before the crisis in the Gulf began, and that Israel and its supporters are counting on the continuation of this crisis in order to reap certain benefits, foremost among which is a recording in the search for a peaceful solution to the question of Palestine. Noteworthy, however, is the fact that Israel and its supporters are the parties most enthusiastic for a military showdown and they encourage it as a means of ending the Gulf crisis.

This crisis has revealed the dangers that may result from a continued deterioration of the situation in the Middle East, dangers with far-reaching devastating effects that transcend the borders of the region. Accordingly, there is today, more than ever before, a need for implementing Security Council resolutions which constitute the legal and political basis for any peaceful settlement in the region. The whole world is almost unanimous in declaring that the appropriate means to achieve such a settlement, in an honourable and lasting manner, is through an international peace conference in which all the parties to the conflict, as well as the five permanent members of the Security Council, will participate, especially since the state of international détente has presently removed this idea from the sphere of rivalry between the Super-powers.

Mr. President,

Recent developments have proved that peace will not prevail in this world simply by ending the conflict between the Super-powers and the establishment of détente between them. They have also proved that unresolved crises do not automatically disappear with the passage of time, but increase in seriousness and complexity. The same developments also confirm that using double or contradictory political, legal and moral standards does not serve the cause of justice and peace in this world. What our region needs most today is a single standard governing relations between its states under the umbrella of international legitimacy, free from selectivity, in order to make the movement of this region in harmony with, rather than in contradiction to, positive developments in our world.

In this context, we view the proposals of His Excellency President Francois Mitterrand of France, made during his speech from this podium two days ago, and the Soviet proposal to hold a conference for peace in the area as ideas deserving careful consideration. We in Jordan shall co-operate, as always, totally ready to co-operate with the United Nations and with our friends in working for a peaceful solution to the problems of the region so that its states and peoples may, after all their suffering, enjoy living in freedom and dignity, and be able to determine their future and to contribute, on a basis of equality and partnership, to forming a new world order, so that peace and justice may go hand in hand since neither can prevail without the other.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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Thank you, Mr. President.

Habash admits past mistakes analyses present and future

By Marwan M. Shalabi
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The latest phase of democratic life in Jordan and the spread of political pluralism brought a packed audience to a lecture at the Royal Cultural Centre given by Dr. George Habash, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) Saturday evening.

The lecture, entitled "The Intifada and the Gulf conflict" was the first open political discussion led by Habash since his return to Jordan after a 20-year absence.

An open and frank discussion followed, and the debate tackled issues as sensitive as Palestinian-Jordanian political relations, the effect of the Gulf crisis on the Intifada and the role of Islam in the policies of the PFLP, the second largest faction within the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

As Jordanian public figures as diverse as Dr. Yacoub Ziadine, head of Jordan's Communist Party, and Dr. Ziad Abu Ghamra, official spokesman of the Muslim Brotherhood, sat in the front row, Habash told the audience that "we are not here only to talk but more importantly to think, to think about the future of our Arab World."

The most sensitive issue discussed was mistakes made in the past by the PLO and its various factions both in Jordan and Lebanon.

"It is of utmost importance to ask those who were involved in the conflict 20 years ago to answer about what happened

then," commented one Jordanian political scientist, who attended the lecture. "Today we had that opportunity," he said after the debate.

"The fact that Palestinian veins run through the body of Jordan does not mean that the Jordanians of Palestinian origin forgo Jordan's interest for those of Palestine, because they are one and the same," Habash told his audience.

When asked directly about the "mistakes" made by the Palestine Liberation Organisation while based in Jordan and Lebanon, Habash conceded

"slightly different."

"We included many sectors of the Lebanese community in our common struggle but we also insisted in taking leadership positions where they should have gone to the Lebanese — this was ultimately bound to cause a conflict," he added.

While many Arab politicians, who represent secular political trends, have made attempts to encompass the growing Islamic trends by conceding to the Islamic character of many political issues, Habash, a Marxist, refused to

the Palestine problem.

"If we are to apply international law to the Gulf crisis, then apply that same law to the Palestine issue. This law would allow for our right of return to Palestine, our right to self-determination in Palestine and our right to create an Arab state on the land of Palestine... so I agree to allow the workings of international law and U.N. Security Council resolutions," Habash told the audience.

The almost three-year-old Intifada, Habash said, has accomplished three important political achievements. "The Intifada has taken the Palestinian — Zionist conflict to the homeland of the problem, Palestine, and not to other Arab states."

Second, the Intifada has crossed all political, social, economic and sectarian lines of the Palestinian people. And, third, only through the Intifada has the possibility of two states on the land of Palestine become a political possibility — a possibility to which I agreed reluctantly."

While consistently condemning the United States for its "aggressive and uncompromising stand on both the Gulf and Palestine issue," Habash said that his faith in the Soviet Union as a superpower had waned considerably.

The stands taken by the Soviet Union on the issue of Jewish immigration and its dwindling support for holding an international conference on the Palestine problem have marred the image of the Soviet Union drastically, Habash said.

'In Jordan it was our mistake that we separated the Palestinian national struggle from that of Jordan and thus isolated the Jordanian people and gave the impression that we have different interests.'

that mistakes had been made. "Our mistakes of differentiation will not be repeated," Habash said. "Our aim is to achieve an absolute consensus on the issue of Arab national unity."

Elaborating on the "mistakes" Habash explained, that "in Jordan it was our mistake that we separated the Palestinian national struggle from that of Jordan and thus isolated the Jordanian people and gave the impression that we have different interests."

Habash also explained that in Lebanon the problem was

be drawn into condoning the Islamisation of the Palestine issue when he reiterated the PFLP's 20 year plus stand that Palestine was the central issue of the greater Arab Nation. "I am pan-Arab socialist and the Palestine issue is the central issue of the Arab Nation," Habash said.

The Palestinian leader, who is now in his mid-sixties, said that the Gulf crisis has worked in favour of the Palestine issue the moment that Saddam Hussein linked the peaceful solution of the Gulf issue to that of

Kurdish music is finally liberated in Turkey

By Nassir Shirkhani
Reuters

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey — Streets in the southeastern Turkish city of Diyarbakir echo to a long-taboo sound — Kurdish music.

Former peshmerga (Kurdish guerrillas) from Iraq have won this struggle for a bit of their cultural identity armed only with a cassette players.

"Two years ago, people were frightened to listen to Kurdish music of any type, let alone political songs. The Iraqi Kurds changed all that," said a Turkish journalist in Diyarbakir.

Diyarbakir is the nerve centre of Turkey's battle against the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), a

Marxist guerrilla group whose six-year-old insurgency has claimed nearly 2,600 lives.

There are an estimated 11,000 Iraqi Kurdish refugees in the city. They fled a military crackdown two years ago in which Baghdad's forces reportedly used poison gas.

Their arrival and public championing of Kurdish culture fuelled a boom in demands for songs now selling all over the rugged areas of eastern Turkey.

The sound of Kurdish music is deafening in what is known as the Peshmerga Bazaar in central Diyarbakir, where former guerrillas make a living by selling

cassettes and contraband merchandise from neighbouring countries.

The words are mostly soothing but some of the songs promote the elusive goal of a homeland for the Kurds, a people spread over Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria and the Soviet Union.

Anakara refuses to recognise its estimated 10-million-strong Kurdish population as a separate ethnic entity. Hundreds of people were jailed for keeping Kurdish music and literature at their homes after a military coup in 1980.

Kurds may not publish in their own language or speak it on official occasions. Registering Kurdish names for children is also

banned. The very word Kurd is banned from official Turkish documents so there is no specific clause in the statute books barring use of the Kurdish language.

But the law says: "indulging in any activity involving the utilisation and propagation of languages other than Turkish as a mother tongue... is prohibited."

Kurdish activists and human rights campaigners say the recording of Kurdish music are so widespread that the government could hardly suppress them if it tried.

"There has been no main change in the government's attitude towards the Kurdish language. Officials are simply turn-

ing a blind eye to the sale of the songs because they know it is impossible to stop it," said a spokesman for the Ankara-based human rights association.

"Almost all Kurdish-speaking families have Kurdish music at their homes," he said.

He said Turkey's desire to improve its human rights record as part of its quest for membership of the European Community appeared to be reversing its policy of heavy-handedness towards Kurdish culture.

But Diyarbakir residents say Turkish linguistic domination has played havoc with the Kurdish language, seriously eroding its role as a means of communication.

Even in Diyarbakir, the main centre of spoken Kurdish in Turkey, residents greet each other in Turkish.

"We find it easier to speak in Turkish because many words simply do not exist in Kurdish. It's almost on the verge of extinction in Turkey," said student Ali Metin.

The absence of written Kurdish in Turkey, has spawned many regional versions of the spoken language, some so far apart that Turkish is used as the lingua franca among Kurds living in different parts of the country.

In contrast with Turkey, Iran and Iraq have radio and television programmes in Kurdish.

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Rowers, shooters keep China on top with 51 gold medals

PEKING (R) — Chinese powers scorched to 14 golds in 14 Asian games finals Wednesday, marking added eight more, as the host nation built up a near unassailable lead in the total medals table.

In mid-afternoon, China banked its 51st gold in only three and a half days of games action, against just seven won so far by the highly fancied South Korean Squad. Japan ranked third with three followed by North Korea with two.

Heavy rain falling in the Peking area forced postponement of the cycling events and the new Peking cult sport, the South Asian village game of kabaddi. Bouts had to be abandoned to prevent the rough, tag-like encounters turning into mud-wrestling.

Indoors, however, China's gymnasts with four golds already under their belts set off on another day of triumphs in the men's and women's individual disciplines.

All eyes were on superstars Li Jing and Chen Cuiling — three perfect 10s between them in the past two days — who are again hot favourites.

The first two of the 10 finals went predictably to the Chinese juggernaut, the men's floor exercises to Li Xiaoshuang and the men's pommel horse final won by Guo Linyue.

At the rowing course 100 northeast of the capital, the Chinese simply walked on water. No-one could shake their control, although a strong Japanese eight pushed them close in the day's last event and trailed by just four seconds at the line.

It was a different tale in the shooting, where North Korea (2), Japan and South Korea all won finals to stop another Chinese whitewash.

Three North Korean women took the small-bore standard rifle prone 60-shots team event, and later their menfolk grabbed gold in the trap 200 targets team shoot-out. China was in the medals even here, collecting both silvers.

The rain cast a pall over Peking

after several days of fine crisp autumn weather. In amongst the floral displays set up to beautify the capital's drab ringroads, the ubiquitous smirking pandas symbolising the games were shrouded in plastic to stop the paint running.

Basketball

Saudi Arabia's basketball coach Felton Sealey, racing his team's Asian Games defeat by North Korea Wednesday, said it would never have happened if he hadn't lost three key players to the military as the Gulf crisis deepens.

The Koreans squeaked by 84-82 in this preliminary tie, thanks mainly to assists by indefatigable 2.3 metre centre Li Myong-Hun. "The Gulf crisis really caused a problem for us," Sealey told reporters. "We were short-handed because we lost three players to the military."

ASIAN GAMES

"(North Korea) wouldn't have beaten us today if we'd had them," he said.

In addition, Sealey said, the captain quit recently to get married.

To cap it all, his squad lost precious practice time when the youth hostels lodging them were turned into shelters for Kuwaiti refugees. "We had to send the players home for eight days."

The Saudi had only about a month to practice, and with junior players as replacements.

But political tension notwithstanding, the Saudi cages intended to do their best under difficult conditions, he said.

With fast breaks and lightning interceptions, they gave the North Koreans a run for their money in a always close-run game.

But the Koreans turned the psychological tide just before half-time to lead 42-37.

They tightened up their three-point shooting after losing to South Korea Tuesday. Colossus

centre Li proved their ace-in-the-hole.

"We really had problems with the big guy, our guys couldn't get past him," Sealey said.

North Korean coach Myong Ik-Gyun said his team lacked experience because they had stayed away from the last Olympics and Asian Games, both held in the South Korean capital Seoul.

"After taking part in these Asian Games, we will improve a lot," Myong said.

Athletics

A soldier from Qatar and the daughter of a poor Indian tailor are among athletes from underdog nations who could prise open China's iron grip on the Asian Games when the track and field competition starts Thursday.

Asian athletics coaches said they expected India's P.T. Usha to win at least three of the five golds she is chasing at the end of an athletics career that has put China's track and field achievements in the shade for a decade.

They also rate Qatari Talal Mansoor as the favourite for the men's sprints, although, he could be pressed by Indonesia's Mardi and China's own Zheng Chen and Li Tao.

China will win the majority of the 41 medals at stake at the track, although the triumph will probably be tarnished by its inability to reach anywhere near world standards in most events.

But it has a reigning World Cup champion in the women's shot putt, Huang Zhihong, and a galaxy of Asian record holders including Wang Xinting, who has dominated the women's distances from 3,000 to 10,000 metres in recent years.

China's male athletes are also expected to maintain their country's high standards in the high jump and triple jump. Its world standards in women's walking events will be upheld by Jin Bingjie and Chen Yuejing.

Japan, the country China supplanted as Asian track and field champion, is in Peking without

the services of its top long distance men — two of whom died in a road crash last month — and could fail in the marathon.

Its honour will probably be upheld by Kazuhiro Mizoguchi, ranked in the top five in the world in Javelin, and silver medalist in the 1989 World Cup.

Athletics ranks with gymnastics and swimming as the glamour disciplines of the games.

Newspapers have been filed since the opening with pictures and reports of the Chinese gold sweep in swimming and gymnastics.

But Chinese weakness on the track could be exposed within the next few days as games record holder Usha opens her campaign in the 200 metres and Mansoor in the 100, in which he clocked Asia's best ever time of 10.18 seconds earlier this year.

Usha is also entered in the 100 metres, 400 metres and anchors the two relays teams, but was forced by the timing of events to withdraw from the 400 metres hurdles. In that event, she has been unbeaten for six years and finished fourth in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

Oman's Mohammad Al Malky is another athlete from the Middle East coming to the games with a reputation of beating the Asian sporting superpowers.

Ranked among the top 20 in the world in the men's 400 metres, he has forced another world class athlete, Japan's Susumu Takano, to shift his attention to the 200 metres.

China faces a challenge in the women's middle distance races. Khinhtwe Khin of Burma has stalked acclaim in the 1,500 metres which she unexpectedly won at the Asian Championships in New Delhi last year.

She is also running in the 800 and 3,000 metres.

South Korea will be hard pressed to come anywhere near its triumphs in track and field in the 1986 games and North Korea is the dark horse, but could spring surprises in the women's events.

Seles, Capriati reach Tokyo quarterfinals

TOKYO (R) — French Open champion Monica Seles needed just 35 minutes to dispose of West German Eva Pfaff in the second round of the \$350,000 Tokyo Women's Indoor Tennis Tournament Wednesday.

The 16-year-old Yugoslav, who became the youngest French Open winner when she beat world number one Steffi Graf in the final, eliminated Pfaff 6-1 6-0 to reach the quarter-finals.

"I watched yesterday how she played and I knew her style of game," the second-seeded Seles said.

The world number three, playing in Japan for the first time, dominated Pfaff from the start with solid two-handed groundstrokes from both sides and powerful backhand passing shots.

Seles will now meet eighth-seeded American Amy Frazier, who beat Czechoslovak Eva Sviglerova 6-2 7-5.

Fourteen-year-old American Jennifer Capriati, regarded as

one of the best young players in tennis history, powered past 15-year-old Magdalena Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-4 in just 60 minutes.

Capriati, bidding for her first tournament win since she made her professional debut in March, held off a challenge in 25 minutes.

Maleeva, ranked 88th in the world, took the second set to 3-3 but then committed a series of forehand return errors to allow the sixth-seeded Capriati to pull ahead.

Magdalena's older sister, Katerina Maleeva, struggled to win her quarterfinal berth, coming back from one set down to beat unseeded Gigi Fernandez of the United States 6-7 (6-8) 6-2 6-2.

The third-seeded Katerina will play Capriati Thursday.

Top seed Martina Navratilova plays her second-round match against fellow American Stephanie Rehe Thursday.

Former Turkish intelligence deputy head shot dead

BRISBANE (R) — Australian John Fitzgerald wore out both his opponent, Todd Woodbridge, and his shoes as he fought his way into the quarter-finals of the Queensland Open Tennis Tournament Wednesday.

Fitzgerald, who knocked out third-seeded Australian Richard Fromberg in the first round, continued his comeback from injury with his 6-4, 2-6, 6-4 victory over his teenage compatriot Woodbridge.

The unseeded Fitzgerald said he had gone through two pairs of tennis shoes in two matches on the rough rebound ace court and had only one pair left.

Fitzgerald has seen his ranking drop from 25 in 1988 to 217 and has been battling a shoulder injury for most of this year.

But the injury has improved in the past month with treatment

from a Los Angeles chiropractor.

"I've been told the injury will continue to improve and it felt good today," said Fitzgerald, who is playing only his fourth tournament since Wimbledon.

"It's been a while since I've won the matches in a row and mentally now I feel I can compete again."

After losing the second set, Fitzgerald went 5-1 ahead in the third and he had two match points in the sixth game on Woodbridge's serve.

The 19-year-old Woodbridge fought valiantly to climb back to 4-5 but Fitzgerald's greater experience then paid off and he won his final service game to love.

In the quarter-finals, Fitzgerald will meet unseeded American Robert Weiss, who had a 6-2, 6-3 win over compatriot David Pate.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You are less wrapped up in an emotional situation at present so this may be a good time to put that down to earth idea in motion. Your deep seated intuitions are producing positive results.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Contact whatever partners are available and let them know your desire to coordinate your efforts with theirs to make a big success of your joint venture.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You are today able to get associates to see things your way at your joint duties so it would be wise to come to a new meeting of minds with them.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Early decide those persons you want to have as your congenial companions on some special entertainment you enjoy and get their acceptance to go with you.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Home should be where your heart is now and you would be wise spending every spare moment there and doing what delights your own clan.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) A bit of faith extended to those who work side by side with you will release a flood of support for plans you shortly want to put in motion.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You are now in a position to make the arrangements that will

enhance the value as well as the appearance of whatever possessions you have.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Consider well whatever goodies you want out of life now for it is your day to go after them with courage, confidence and the ability to gain them.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Make a special point this good day for romance and goodwill to do what pleases your attachment as well as other pleasant associations.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Now you are able to get in touch with those friends and acquaintances who mean much to you, and you to them, and enjoy each others company.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Whatever you wish to do of a worldly or public nature should turn out very much to your advantage by your own clever manipulations.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Get off to the new scenes and persons that good friends feel will be good and helpful to you and have recommended for your future well-being.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You can weigh and balance your various practical needs today and come up with what is best for you and the right methods by which to obtain them.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNIA HIRSCH
© 1990 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

A 2,200-POINT SWING

Both vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 3 2
♥ A Q J 8 3 2
♦ Q 7 5
♣ 9

WEST
♠ 4
♥ 10 7 6 5
♦ A J 10 8 6
♣ A 10 8 7

EAST
♠ A 9 6
♥ K 9 4
♦ K 3 2
♣ K Q J 3

SOUTH
♠ K Q J 10 7 5
♥ Void
♦ Q 9 4
♣ 6 5 4 2

The bidding:

East South West North
1 NT 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠
Dbl Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠

Strange things can happen at a major tournament. On this hand from the Open Pairs event at the recent Spring North American Championships, there was a five-trick difference between the number of tricks taken by two of the declarers.

West's bid of three spades was game forcing and showed a four-card heart suit. East-West would have played three no trump, a contract that would produce an over-trick with careful technique. But North got into the action and South became declarer at four spades

doubled. Sitting East and West were Brian Gubok and Edgar Kaplan of New York. West led the four of spades. East rose with the ace and returned the suit and declarer played the king from hand (letting the second spade ride to the eight would have saved a trick).

A club was conceded to East and the nine of trumps removed dummy's last ruff while locking declarer in hand. As a result, South could score no more than his five trump tricks, yielding a penalty of 1,400 points.

Another declarer to play in four spades doubled was Jerry Clark of North Vernon, Ind. He received a heart lead and made full use of that gift and subsequent slipshod defense. Dummy's jack was inserted and East's king ruffed away. The nine of clubs was won by East, who shifted to a low trump to declarer's king. A club ruff served as an entry to dummy to cash two high hearts, declarer discarding two diamonds from hand.

Declarer came to hand with a heart ruff, ruffed a second club with the table's last trump, then led the three of hearts. For reasons known only to himself, East chose not to ruff, so declarer was able to discard one of his minor-suit losers. Making 10 tricks, for a score of plus 790.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Get into the practical phase of the decisions you will have had to have made by this weekend and let your companions know that you are material minded enough to increase your income base.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Those associates who are usually cooperative are too occupied with their own concerns now to give the attention you expect of them.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You start out feeling it will be difficult to properly attend to your daily activities so make up your mind you will do your best with them.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Putting into motion some creative plan you are relying upon making a success through proves to be a lengthier task than you anticipated but keep steadfast.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You feel you are not getting the support and backing at your home on some project but put it off until your family is in a better mood.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Think about what message you want to extend to others and then double check them to make sure there is nothing that they could object to.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Think twice before making any commitments of a material or practical nature now and if repaying

property use special care with tools.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You are discontented and want to make some drastic changes and yet are unsure how they should be done so take under advisement for the moment.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You have some confidential plans you want to discuss and get an advisor to help you with but this is not the right day or time to do so.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A unusually understanding friend is not available or too preoccupied with own affairs to be helpful so make up own decisions on own work.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A day to be sure to follow all laws and rules applicable to you meticulously for critical eyes peer in any worldly situation you are in.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Many new ideas you have been planning to do something constructive about should be put on the back burner for the moment and attend only to pressing needs.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You now can wisely spend your day analyzing just where you stand in practical matters and arrangements to attend to income, collect moneys due to you.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Morris

HARRIS825



"That's another thing that bugs me. You're too possessive!"

Ferrari boss seeks to solve Prost rift with Formula 1 team

JEREZ, Spain (R) — Ferrari boss Gianni Agnelli Tuesday spoke out in support of Alain Prost in a bid to solve the Frenchman's rift with the Italian Formula One team.

According to reports in Spain, where the Formula One circus is arriving in preparation for Sunday's potentially decisive Spanish Grand Prix, Agnelli was astonished at Ferrari's lack of strategy in last weekend's Portuguese Grand Prix won by Prost's teammate Nigel Mansell.

Agnelli, speaking in Turin, said: "I've not really seen any team strategy at Ferrari and did not see any at the start Sunday. I was astonished at what I saw on

the television and we need to have absolute clarification on the team situation and strategy without any doubt about it at all."

Prost had complained after the race at Ferrari's lack of management, team-work and strategy. He said the team did not deserve to win the championship and that he would reconsider his decision about driving for the team next year.

Mansell's victory, after he had squeezed Prost towards the pit wall in a near-disastrous start for the Frenchman, virtually ended Prost's hopes of winning the driver's title and Prost reacted angrily afterwards.

Foreman knocks out opponent in one round

LONDON (AP) — Former heavyweight champion George Foreman needed only three minutes to claim his 24th victory in a row as he knocked out Terry Anderson as the first round ended.

The victory in the non-title fight was Foreman's 69th as a professional against two losses. It kept his record perfect since he began a comeback three years ago.

Foreman, 42, who weighed in for the bout at 259 pounds (117 kilograms), hit Anderson with a left jab and then clubbed him with a right with six seconds left

in the first round.

Anderson was counted out and stayed on the canvas for about a minute, then got up to hug Foreman.

"I thought it would go a couple of rounds, but as I jabbed him he walked straight into my right hand," said Foreman, who notched his 65th pro knockout. "It was one of the strongest punches I have ever thrown."

"My power is back. I thought I had lost it to Muhammad Ali and now I feel as strong as I did as a teenager," said Foreman, who lost his title to Ali in Kinshasa, Zaire, in 1974.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PYXOR

WOREC

ZOLENZ

INSORP

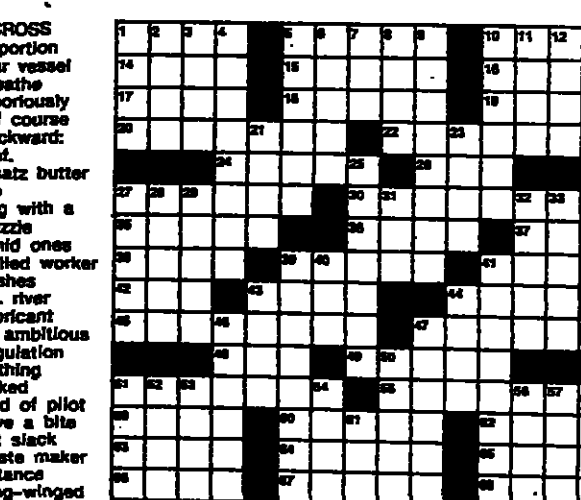


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

Yesterday's Jumble: CLUCK WOMEN KNIGHT RACIAL

Answer: Good luck sometimes turns a man's head when it should do this instead—WRING HIS NECK



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

HOME APPLE BASK
AVON TRAIL ELIA
METE HATGOGARS
PRO FETE BASES
GARTER BOOT
ORGANS HAMMERS
STIVE HONEY DAT
LAGE FINGER HOME
OIL FINGER THING
DECADES TARDEN
FRAS RACET
GATLER BEST APT
ASSESSMENT JOOE
PIER PEACE FRED
EASY ANGES FRED

44 Cashmere
46 Distant world
47 Emporium
50 Stage setting
51 Roamy part
52 Certain contest
53 A Gardner
54 Shaken
56 Charles Lamb
57 Musical sign
58 Vetch
59 John Passes

Egypt remains confident over U.S. debt write-off despite Congress hitch

CAIRO (R) — An Egyptian minister expressed confidence Wednesday that the United States would write off billions of dollars in debt despite a hitch in Congress on approving the plan.

Minister of state for cabinet affairs, Ataf Obeid, leading a delegation to gain support for the plan, told Reuters by telephone from Washington the issue would be resolved "by the end of the year."

Tuesday, a House of Representatives committee shelved a Bush administration request to cancel Egypt's \$6.7 billion military sales debt after being told it faced defeat in the full House.

Instead, the House Appropriations Committee moved to ensure that Egypt continued to receive military aid even though it is more than a year behind in payments of earlier debts.

An Egyptian political analyst said of the decision: "It's a slap in the face but Egypt can't do much about it."

But Obeid said his delegation had been touched by the overwhelming support we got from the administration and both houses.

"It is not over or postponed or shelved, it just needs closer study and the Congress needs time to review its new budget," Obeid said.

"There is total appreciation for Egypt's (economic) circumstances and the need to help it. Saying we were defeated would be unfair to the Bush administration," he noted.

Some Egyptian officials felt congressional approval was assured after Cairo, Washington's closest Arab ally, sent some 20,000 troops to join U.S. forces

in Saudi Arabia.

"It's still in the bag and Egypt will be vindicated. It's a winnable case and the U.S. administration is fighting very seriously for the write-off," said Ashraf Gharbal, Egypt's former ambassador to the U.S. and a member of the team in Washington.

Egyptian officials have said Cairo's commitment to Saudi security was matter of principle and was not in return for more U.S. aid or the cancellation of debts owed.

But Cairo badly needed approval by Congress which Arab diplomats said would have given a lead to other Western states to help relieve Egypt's burden of servicing a massive foreign debt of some \$50 billion.

Egypt, which has a population of 56 million, has said it stands to lose some \$4.5 billion by next

June because of the impact of the Gulf crisis on its economy.

The second largest recipient of U.S. aid after Israel, Egypt gets about \$350 million a year in economic help and \$1.2 billion in military assistance.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker earlier this month praised Egypt's "courageous and outstanding" position on the Gulf crisis and said Washington hoped to gain approval for the debt write-off by early next year.

Representative David Obey, a member of the congressional panel, said the debt cancellation plan as it stood would be "clobbered" in the full House, sending Cairo a disastrous signal.

He said he had told the White House his panel was working to find "innovative" ways to deal with the problem and that the forgiveness issue remained open.

Bush announces creation of group to assist states hit by Gulf crisis

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush, decrying the "staggering burden" suffered by many nations because of the Gulf crisis, announced Tuesday creation of an international clearinghouse to coordinate financial help for needy countries.

Bush announced the initiative at the annual meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Tuesday's session opened with an announcement by World Bank President Barber Conable of emergency plans to help resettle hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing Iraq and Kuwait.

"Superpower rivalry has dissipated, but the Gulf crisis poses an obvious threat to world peace," Conable said.

In his remarks, Bush said Iraq's takeover of Kuwait has had devastating repercussions, with serious disruptions in trade and the flow of oil, as well as major problems with refugees and displaced workers.

"This staggering burden, which is pressing upon these most seriously affected countries, calls for a generous response from the world community," Bush said.

He said the United States already has begun to mobilize financial help for frontline states, such as Egypt, Jordan and Turkey, suffering as a result of a loss of trade with Iraq because of sanctions against Baghdad.

On a recent trip, Secretary of State James Baker secured promises of \$20 billion in military and financial aid.

Bush said that "to transform commitments into concrete contributions," he was establishing a Gulf crisis financial coordination group "with the aim of achieving effective, timely and sustained financial support to these most seriously affected countries."

The group will be under the chairmanship of Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady. Its members also will include Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Germany, Britain, Italy, France, Japan, Canada, South Korea, the European Community and possibly others.

The IMF and World Bank will provide technical advice and support.

"The political leadership of the U.N. must be matched by the economic leadership of the IMF and the World Bank," Bush said.

Top finance officials from 152 member nations and, for the first time, an invited delegation from the Soviet Union, are attending the meetings. Soviet representatives were not in earlier closed-door, policy-making sessions, but sat toward the back of the hall in the plenary session Tuesday.

opposed Soviet membership in the World Bank or the IMF.

The bank is not a relief agency," Conable said in announcing an emergency assistance program, "but it can help by financing expenditures for rehabilitation and other services which generate immediate employment and income, while building productive assets."

"The World Bank is already taking action," he said. "We have the flexibility to respond quickly in such crises."

Conable said the bank also is taking other steps. These include speeding up existing loan programs for countries affected by rising oil prices and other results of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

Michael Camdessus, IMF managing director, told the delegates they had to face critical questions in dealing with the Gulf crisis. They include what policies to adopt to ward off a global recession and how to improve global trade and the international monetary system.

"The crisis in the Middle East has reminded us all that peace is fragile and that economies are always vulnerable," Camdessus said.

In closed-door sessions of world finance ministers who oversee the institutions, both the bank and the IMF put together plans for helping nations affected by

Iraq's takeover of Kuwait and the subsequent rise in oil prices.

Details were being worked out, but the two institutions were expected to supply billions of additional dollars to poor countries hurt by the crisis.

At a news conference Monday night, Conable declined to say how much assistance the bank or the fund would provide in response to the Gulf crisis.

"You tell us how long the crisis is going to last and maybe we can help you on that," he said in response to a reporter's question.

In the case of refugees, he said, it is difficult to predict how many there might be, with one million or more still in Iraq and Kuwait.

The refugee workers had travelled to Iraq and Kuwait from surrounding countries and from as far away as Korea and the Philippines. Salaries sent to families at home are a significant source of hard cash for the countries to buy goods abroad.

In some countries, the workers will be returning to areas where jobs and housing are scarce.

Earlier Monday, the IMF's policymaking Interim Committee promised in a communique that it would respond on an "expedited basis" to the Mideast crisis.

Among IMF programmes that could be tapped for money is a compensatory fund used in the past to aid nations hit by earthquakes and hurricanes.

Asia market confused

Oil traders pause for breath

SINGAPORE (R) — After sending crude oil and product prices to dizzying heights, traders paused for breath in Asia Wednesday to take stock of developments in the Gulf and review fundamentals. Trading was confused, they said.

"Crude prices have been drifting on war psychology," an international trader said.

"Crude prices cannot sustain the high levels and are falling to fill a gap before going up again on fresh war news," an investment house trader said.

Prices have risen so strongly in the last few days that refiners' margins have suffered as a result, he said.

"Oil products are waiting for the push from crudes, and when they are pushed to a new plateau they don't come off easily although crudes may weaken," a

trader with a European oil firm said.

Crude buyers in the Far East retreated in the afternoon after prices traded marginally higher in the morning following falls of more than \$1 a barrel overnight.

Key U.S. crude West Texas Intermediate (WTI) on the New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX) fell 72 cents to \$37.53 a barrel for November Tuesday, but rose \$1.25 to \$36.07 for December.

In Asia, November WTI traded 11 cents above the NYMEX close.

Britain's international benchmark Brent blend oil traded at \$36.68 for a partial December cargo, up from the U.S. closing level of \$35.55.

Bullish sentiment driven by fears of war in the Middle East faltered on daunting fun-

damentals, traders said.

Fears of war rose a notch after the U.N. Security Council clamped an air embargo on Iraq and Kuwait, and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said he would be powerless to stop a war if President Bush started it.

"I expect the crudes to come off today, fundamentals are not so strong as refiners in Europe and the U.S. suffer negative margins," the international trader said.

New strike paralyses Greece

ATHENS (R) — A new strike paralysed Greece Wednesday with more than a million workers protesting against a government-imposed austerity programme.

The first day of a 48-hour strike cancelled flights, shut banks, stopped trains and buses, left Athens with piles of garbage, caused long power cuts and closed public offices, hospitals, schools and the stock exchange.

It was the third general strike in as many weeks called by the General Confederation of Greek Workers (GSEE), the Public Servants Union (ADEDY) and the Athens Labour Centre (EKA), the country's largest labour groupings.

The unions called for mass rallies in Athens and three other cities Wednesday to protest against a social security reform draft law due to be passed by the conservative government this week.

The law would cut benefits and raise contributions to help cover the social security and the huge debt.

"The government is fully responsible for the upheaval. Its stubbornness has left no place for dialogue and its unpopular decisions will have a severe effect on the living standards of thousands of workers," General Confederation President Lambros Kanellopoulos said.

A strike by state bank employees which began Sept. 9 has frozen most transactions. Some stores have begun to refuse to take domestic credit cards.

Cargo is piling up in harbours and customs offices because there is no money to clear incoming goods.

"The strike has caused immense problems in our transactions," Nikos Makrides, a manager at an Athens supermarket chain, said.

A 17-day stoppage by workers at the Public Power Corporation (DEI) cut electricity by half.

Yemen appeals for aid

SANAA (R) — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh appealed to developed countries Tuesday for help in meeting financial difficulties caused by the Gulf crisis.

Observance of U.N. sanctions on Iraq would lead to "insurmountable repercussions unless industrialised countries overcome economic, commercial and development difficulties," he said.

The Yemeni leader said earlier this month that Yemen, with a population of 12 million, would lose billions of dollars because of the U.N. embargo and reduced remittances from Yemenis working in the Gulf.

"We hope observance of Security Council resolution 661 by developing countries will not turn into a punishment while those behind adopting it prosper," Saleh said.

The government newspaper Al Thawra said in an editorial Yemen's commitment to U.N. resolutions had resulted in "serious economic losses which may exceed those suffered by any other state."

Tokyo leads Asian stock market retreat

TOKYO (R) — Plunging Tokyo stocks led a general stock market retreat throughout Asia Wednesday as concern mounted over the Gulf standoff.

Tokyo stocks posted a new 1990 closing low after the Nikkei average broke through the psychologically important 23,000 level in afternoon trade.

The key 225-share Nikkei index closed down 1,108.70 points, or 4.75 per cent, at 22,250.62, after falling 418.51 Tuesday. The closing low represents a new traded low for the year.

"Once we broke through 23,000 everything just fell apart," said Gregory Bundy, broker at Merrill Lynch Japan Inc. "People just want out."

The biggest loser in yen terms was Nippon Telegraph and Telephone, down 41,000 yen to close the day at 760,000.

Jitters over what was seen as a deepening Gulf crisis added selling pressure, and concern over the stubbornness of the market's recent decline was the driving force behind the selloff, traders said.

The free-fall on the Tokyo share market helped push the Australian market lower, sacrificing early gains. The All Ordinaries index closed 7.8 points down at 1,386.0.

Taiwan stocks ended sharply lower despite early confidence on the back of firmer New York share prices.

The weighted index fell 105.05 points, or 3.89 per cent, to finish at 2,596.79 compared with Tuesday's 2,701.84 close.

Singapore share prices drifted lower and the Straits Times industrial index fell to 1,103.90 at midday, its lowest level since March 1989.

Hong Kong stocks ended the morning sharply lower, with Tokyo's slump below the 23,000 support level wiping out early gains. The blue chip Hang Seng index ended the morning 42.80 points lower at 2,764.70.

Share price declines in Asia came despite higher U.S. stock prices. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 32.67 points, or 1.33 per cent, to 2,485.64, after a 59-point battering Monday that sent the index to its 1990 low.

Bahrain's banking chief sees system stabilising

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain's banking sector is stabilising after the shock to the system delivered by Iraq's takeover of nearby Kuwait, its central bank chief said.

"Though it might be too early to attempt to quantify or assess the full impact of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, we like to remain optimistic," Abdullah Saif, governor of the Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA), said in a written reply to questions from Reuters.

"The gradual return of deposits to the banking system, and the return to normality, has been manifested. We feel that the banking sector in Bahrain will ultimately reemerge strong," he said.

Saif said the BMA, in accordance with its free market policies, had no plans to control money flows and even at the peak of the crisis instructed banks to meet any requests to exchange dinars or make remittances.

Confidence in the financial future of Bahrain, which is host to the Gulf's only offshore banking

market, was badly damaged by Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion.

All Gulf banking markets suffered heavy deposit withdrawals but the broad and sophisticated Bahrain banking sector suffered more than most, mainly from loss of depositor confidence in the days before the arrival of U.S. and other foreign forces in the Gulf to deter further Iraqi expansion.

"Before the invasion of Kuwait, the underlying trend in banking was good. Banks seemed poised for takeoff when they were, like everybody else, taken by surprise," Saif said.

The Bahrain offshore banking market had record assets of \$73.3 billion on March 31, according to BMA figures.

Post-invasion figures are not yet available but are almost certain to be significantly lower, Gulf offshore bankers said.

It was also too early to assess the future of investment and financing in Bahrain, but funding for the island's big Alba Aluminium project has expected to

continue smoothly, Saif said.

He also said interbank lines to Bahrain-based banks were gradually returning.

Gulf bankers said many Western and Asian banks, especially the Japanese, cut their normal funding business into and out of Bahrain immediately after the invasion, fearing a further escalation of the crisis.

BMA figures show total deposits in the Bahrain banking system on Sept. 17 were 1.27 billion dinars (\$3.37 billion) compared with 1.5 billion (\$4 billion) on July 31.

The BMA took several measures to ensure an orderly market, calm panic, and preserve banking liquidity, Saif said.

These included advising banks to stop depositors breaking time deposits before maturity, liquidating assets where possible and trying to roll over deposits, providing liquidity to banks, and promptly providing cash dollars to meet depositor demand.

"This policy... boosted confidence in the Bahrain banking sector," he added.

Filipinos demand wage increase

MANILA (AP) — Workers demanded a 38-peso (\$1.50) increase in the daily minimum wage Wednesday after the government increased fuel prices last week.

Leader of the Labour Advisory and Consultative Council and the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) met Wednesday to unify their demands for a wage increase, a spokesman said. The groups are the largest labour federations in the country.

TUCP President Democrito

Mendoza said workers were demanding an increase because of rising inflation.

"I am appealing to the government to take the human factor. The workers are humans," Mendoza said.

Nick Elman, a spokesman of the left-wing May First Movement, said the labour federations will demand the President Corason Aquino submit urgent legislation for an across-the-board increase in the minimum daily wage for private and government workers.

The government last Friday ordered an average 26 per cent increase in fuel prices, citing the rising price of crude oil in the world market and the deterioration of the exchange rate of the peso.

Monday, the government increased transport fares as workers and passenger jeep drivers launched a nationwide strike to protest the fuel price hike.

"This (increase) is not yet the just wage," Elman said. "This is only part of what we want because of the inflation... so we view this as a just demand government should immediately grant."

The government has pegged minimum daily wages at 79 pesos (\$3.16) for plantation labourers, 58.50 pesos (\$2.34) for other agricultural workers and 89 pesos (\$3.56) for industrial workers.

Union leaders and labour officials acknowledge that many firms do not follow the minimum wage rates fixed by the government, particularly in companies that are not unionised.

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3 killed in Natal as curfew keeps South African townships quiet

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Three people were killed in factional fighting in South Africa's Natal province, police said Wednesday, but black townships around Johannesburg were quiet after a curfew was imposed to quell violence there.

A police spokeswoman said residents of townships in the country's industrial heart had cooperated well with a dusk-to-dawn curfew introduced Tuesday to crack down on six weeks of fighting which has killed more than 770 people.

"It was very quiet, we had no problems and no one was arrested," she said.

In a daily report of political violence, police said they found the bodies of three black men in two separate areas of Natal, which borders the Indian Ocean.

More than 4,000 people have been killed in a four-year struggle in the largely rural province be-

tween supporters of Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) and members of Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthe's rival Inkatha Freedom Party.

Last month the violence spread to the Johannesburg area, centering on hostels housing Zulu migrant workers from Natal.

Reporters following a police patrol through the vast Soweto township Tuesday night to monitor the start of the curfew said razor wire had been erected around the hostels as part of the government's "operation iron fist" clampdown.

By 9 p.m. the streets were virtually deserted and there were no signs of the defiance to the curfew threatened by the ANC-affiliated United Democratic Front (UDF) alliance.

Seventeen people have been killed in the Johannesburg area since the weekend after a week of calm following the introduction

of the "iron fist" security measures, which include mounting light machine-guns on patrol vehicles.

Police said Wednesday seven of the victims, whose bodies were found by the railway line between Johannesburg and Soweto on Monday evening, had not been killed on a train as previously reported.

"They had no stab or back wounds. They either jumped or were pushed," said the spokeswoman.

Mearwhile South African President F.W. de Klerk went the furthest ever towards the principle of one person, one vote for his nation and won possibly the strongest endorsement yet of his racial reforms during his three-day visit to Washington.

U.S. Senator David Boren, a veteran critic of apartheid, said after meeting De Klerk Tuesday that no one could be better qual-

ified to lead South Africa. President George Bush praised De Klerk for his courage Monday and said he accepted that South Africa had gone too far towards democracy to turn back.

By declaring De Klerk's changes "irreversible" Bush went beyond the European Community and other Western leaders, who have yet to agree that De Klerk cannot return to apartheid.

De Klerk conceded in response to questions Tuesday that he might accept one person, one vote on a common role if there were adequate guarantees of minority rights.

"I'm quite happy to use one man, one vote," he said after an address to the National Press Club in Washington. "Every South African must have the vote and... that includes the possibility, the probability, that that vote would be brought out on one common voters' role," he said.

Mulroney faces awesome range of problems in new political season

TORONTO (AP) — Conservative Prime Minister Brian Mulroney heads into the new political season with an awesome array of worries ranging from rebellious Indians and unpopular taxes to threats of a breakup of the confederation.

Mulroney is in big trouble with voters, scoring 14 per cent or less in the polls. But the opposition Liberals, led by Jean Chretien, have been unable to capitalise on Mulroney's growing unpopularity and were drubbed in two recent provincial elections.

Many Canadians feel the country is leaderless and adrift.

Mulroney's government is the most unpopular since the Gallup Organisation began taking polls in the country 50 years ago. The polls say the Progressive Conservatives are favoured by only 20 per cent of the population.

At the end of July, Gallup asked Canadians who would make the best prime minister — Mulroney, Chretien or Socialist New Democratic Party chief Audrey McLaughlin.

Of those questioned, 30 per cent chose Chretien, 18 per cent Mulroney and 14 per cent Mulroney. Thirty-eight per cent rejected all three or said they didn't know which one they liked.

"There is a conjunction of events that has made the public

rather cranky about politicians in general, more so than usual," said Ron Watts, a professor of political science at Queen's University and director of the Institute for Intergovernmental Relations.

Among other problems, the country is sliding into recession. Mohawk Indians and the army are at a standoff over land rights, a new 7 per cent tax goes into effect in January for almost everything, and Quebec failed to sign the constitution.

Canadian ships and fighters have been deployed in the Gulf crisis and the government has made patronage appointments to the senate, including one who is under criminal investigation.

A report is due next spring on whether Quebec will try for independence of some other relationship with the rest of Canada.

Mulroney, who worked hard to achieve the U.S.-Canada free trade pact, dismisses the bad news in the polls.

"What matters is where you are on election night, not some two years before," he said.

But Mulroney's low profile for much of the summer has led many Canadians to feel he has been avoiding the tough questions.

"It seems to have been an eternity this summer, and through all this, Mr. Mulroney has pulled a dis-

appearing act," said Liberal Jean Robert Gauthier.

Chretien, whose showing in the polls has slipped since he won the Liberal leadership in June, also is suffering.

Bad news for the Conservatives usually means good news for the Liberals. But not lately.

The Socialist New Democrats ousted the Liberals in Ontario's provincial elections in August, and in the Manitoba provincial elections a week later, the Conservatives won a majority, showing the Liberals into third place behind the New Democrats.

Fringe movements are growing. The rightist Reform Party, a child of western Canada, recently moved onto the national scene with 6 per cent in the polls.

Mulroney's former Quebec lieutenant, Lucien Bouchard, betrayed him and formed a separatist Bloc Quebecois in the House of Commons dedicated to independence for Quebec. The bloc has 5 per cent in national polls.

"Ultimately, if we end up with an array of regional parties, that will seriously weaken the federal system," Watts said.

University of Calgary analyst David Bercuson said: "Because they don't really indicate any overall general direction to the leadership, the leadership doesn't know what to do."

3 shot dead in India over caste row

NEW DELHI (R) — Police shot dead three people in the north Indian town of Jammu and a school student set himself ablaze in New Delhi Wednesday to protest against a government plan to reserve jobs for low caste Hindus.

Officials said three people were killed in Jammu and nearly a dozen wounded when police fired on violent mobs protesting against the plan. The army was called out to enforce an indefinite curfew.

In New Delhi school student Chetan Gautam, aged 14 or 15, was the ninth youth to attempt self-immolation over the past week in protest against the plan, which has rocked the government of Prime Minister V.P. Singh.

In Jammu, the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, angry students pelted police with stones, and set fire to at least 30 vehicles and half a dozen government buildings.

Police fired into the crowd when warning shots failed to disperse them. One person was killed on the spot and two others died in hospital, officials sources said.

Protests which have gripped much of the Hindi-speaking heartland of northern India erupted after Singh's Aug. 7 decision to increase job quotas from 22.5 per cent to nearly half for people at the bottom end of the Hindu social hierarchy.

Critics say Singh's plan will only strengthen the rigid caste hierarchy that determines a person's position at birth. They want jobs shared out on economic, not caste, grounds.

Police battled rampaging mobs with tear gas and riot sticks in several areas of the Indian capital after Tuesday's clashes which killed two students and injured four others.

In south Delhi police fired tear gas and rushed in reinforcements after hundreds of students went on a rampage and burned half a dozen vehicles.

One youth was seriously injured by a police bullet and was taken by police to hospital, witnesses said.

Angry youths stoned the hospital and the boy, identified as Chaman Lal, was taken to another.

"I lifted the boy with my own hands before police took him away and he had a very deep wound in his leg," said Sunder Kohli, a resident of the Hari Nagar neighbourhood.

"I saw a policeman shooting at him point blank when he was on the ground."

"Police officials at the scene denied any shots were fired. The youths stoned ambulances and burned the hospital superintendent's car, witnesses said.

Stone-throwing youths surrounded a troop truck in Hari Nagar forcing about 15 armed policemen to run for cover brandishing their guns, they added.

The youths set fire to the truck while police retaliated with tear gas.

Thousands of students had gathered in the neighbourhood to hold a funeral procession for a student shot dead by police during protests Tuesday.

Phnom Penh digs in heels against guerrilla demands

PHNOM PENH (R) — The Phnom Penh government Wednesday declared the Cambodian peace process stalemate once again, and Premier Hun Sen blamed the guerrilla groups allied against him for rejecting their own leader's compromise plan.

Hun Sen told a rally marking the first anniversary of the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops that it was the guerrilla alliance that was standing in the way of adopting a plan proposed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk for sharing power on Cambodia's new Supreme National Council (SNC).

Hopes for a second session of the SNC in Bangkok, revived by conciliatory statements over the weekend, were dashed Tuesday when the Khmer Rouge and its two non-Communist allies refused to accept Hun Sen as vice-chairman.

"It's a stalemate again," said a Foreign Ministry official here who asked not to be named.

"We will not allow the coalition to impose unacceptable conditions on us. We have given so many concessions already," he said.

The first SNC meeting broke down in Bangkok last week over Hun Sen's refusal to allow Sihanouk, titular leader of the guerrilla alliance, to become chairman and take a 13th seat on the council.

Sihanouk later proposed a compromise that would seat him as chairman and give Phnom Penh an extra seat, maintaining parity with seven votes for each side.

Officials in the Phnom Penh government and the guerrilla

groups said they accepted this, but when the guerrillas sat down to devise a strategy for the renewed peace effort they raised once again the issue of Hun Sen becoming vice-chairman and decided it was unacceptable.

Hun Sen said Wednesday this constituted a rejection of Sihanouk's 7-7 plan. He said he was willing to go back to the original 6-6 configuration of the SNC, and then the council could discuss electing co-chairmen from among its original members. This would eliminate Sihanouk as chairman.

"If Sihanouk is going to be chairman then it is only fair that the vice-chairman comes from our side," the Foreign Ministry official said.

The SNC is a key element of a U.N. Security Council plan to bring peace to Cambodia after 11 years of civil war.

The SNC is supposed to select a unified delegation to the U.N. General Assembly, arrange a ceasefire and represent Cambodian sovereignty when the world body virtually takes over the country ahead of elections.

Diplomats and aid workers say the Phnom Penh government is playing for time to firm up its grip on the country now that it no longer has the Vietnamese army to back it up directly.

They say it is staying in the peace process to try to lessen the international isolation that has plagued it since Vietnamese soldiers installed the government in 1979 after ousting the Khmer Rouge, under whose reign of terror a million Cambodians died.

Sri Lankan troops abandon Jaffna Fort

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lankan troops who battled their way into a bitterly contested colonial fort in the heart of rebel territory less than two weeks ago abandoned it on Wednesday without official explanation.

The 350-year-old Dutch fort in Jaffna, in the far north of Sri Lanka, has long been the focus of the struggle between the government and guerrillas of the island's Tamil minority fighting for their own homeland.

Military sources said 400 to 500 soldiers inside the star-shaped fort were ferried across a lagoon in a flotilla of boats to an army-held island in an operation completed Wednesday morning.

"There is no one inside now," one source said.

There was no immediate official explanation why the fort, whose battered garrison was relieved on Sept. 13 after a three-month guerrilla siege, was abandoned.

But military analysts said the fort no longer had strategic value

and had been held only for prestige purposes.

"We have three well-fortified bases close to Jaffna from where we can move out if we want to, unlike the fort where we need a big military force to get out," one analyst said.

Fifteen government soldiers and policemen have been killed in the fort since the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the main guerrilla group fighting for Tamil autonomy, began a fresh offensive in June.

Until the siege was broken, the Sri Lankan Air Force dropped food and medical supplies to about 200 soldiers and policemen inside the encircled fort.

During Wednesday's evacuation one soldier was injured when he stepped on an anti-personnel mine.

The government had said it was interested in handing over the fort and a nearby hospital to the International Committee of the Red Cross. But the rebels rejected the proposal.

Angola peace talks move towards civil war truce

LISBON (R) — Peace talks between U.S.-backed UNITA rebels and Angola's leftist government entered a third day Wednesday with signs of progress towards ending 15 years of civil war.

The presence of superpower observers, on the sidelines to give advice on technical aspects of an eventual ceasefire, was helping dialogue flow after months of impasse, sources close to the talks said.

While not actually sitting at the negotiating table, representatives of the United States and the Soviet Union — respective backers of UNITA and Lusanda — were close by to encourage their Angolan clients to do business.

"There is a sense of commonality and no sense of tension," one source said. "No one believes there is pressure on them to reach agreement but the superpower presence gives them a burst of enthusiasm."

Kremlin adopts law on religious freedom

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet legislature Wednesday eased decades of strict prohibitions on religious instruction and reiterating the separation of church and state.

The Soviet constitution officially permits freedom of conscience, but the new law re-emphasizes that political leaders cannot interfere with religious activities.

The law, adopted 341-1 with one abstention in the Supreme Soviet, specifies the government will finance neither religious activities nor "propaganda of atheism."

In the past, the government and Communist Party have actively discouraged religious services, repressed religious groups and sought to spread atheism.

The new law allows religious groups to set up "societies, brotherhoods, associations" and other groups. It says religious organisations can send people abroad for spiritual study and receive foreign students in the Soviet Union.

It permits the government to continue returning churches for use as religious buildings. Many churches have fallen into disrepair or been used by the government as storehouses, offices and even factories.

The law guarantees the right to study and teach religion either

individually or with others. But a clause allowing secular facilities to be used for religious instruction after regular school hours touched off a fierce debate and was defeated by one chamber of the legislature.

Lawmaker Genrikh Igityan of Armenia argued that "every educated person must study religion" and that comparative world religions should be on every curriculum.

But Sergei Ryabchenko from the Ukraine said teaching contradictory religious doctrines in schools could turn his republic into "another Beirut" because of friction between the Roman Catholic and Russian Orthodox churches.

The provision was approved by the Council of the Union, but defeated by the Council of Nationalities, and will have to be resolved by a joint committee.

Religious leaders, including Patriarch Alexi II of the Russian Orthodox Church, and representatives of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church and the Soviet Jewish Community, attended the debate.

The law calls for the establishment of a panel of religious leaders to advise the government of human rights issues.

Alexi, wearing a black clerical robe and white headpiece topped with a gold cross, addressed the

lawmakers, urging the government not to come between the church and the people.

"The Russian Church has already experienced attempts on a political basis to destroy the unity of religious life," he said.

Donations to religious organisations have been and remain tax-free. The new law, however, cuts the tax rate from 69 per cent to 35 per cent on the profits of enterprises affiliated with religious groups.

Official tolerance for religion has increased dramatically since Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in 1985. The number of Christian baptisms and church reopenings has soared, the Russian Orthodox patriarch has met with the Soviet leadership for the first time in more than 40 years, and important religious centres like the Pechorsky Monastery of Kiev have been returned to the church.

On Sunday, a divine liturgy was held in the Kremlin's Uspensky Cathedral, the first full service allowed in Russia's most important cathedral since 1918.

Jews also enjoy greater religious freedom and a revival of Islam in central Asia is increasing the number of Muslim students and mosques.

Scores of religious dissidents of all faiths have been freed from jails and prison camps.

COLUMN

Liz Taylor sues tabloid for \$20 m

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Elizabeth Taylor has filed \$20 million libel suit against the National Enquirer, claiming the supermarket tabloid falsely labeled her a heavy drinker with a disfiguring disease. The superior court lawsuit said the actress was hospitalized with near-fatal pneumonia when a front-page headline June 12 screamed: "Liz does furries. She's boozing it up in the hospital." The lawsuit also cited a Jan. 19 article headlined: "Liz's beautiful face ravaged by killer disease. Doctors order suicide watch after they finally diagnose the mystery illness." The lawsuit said that story suggested Miss Taylor had lupus, a destructive skin condition. Miss Taylor claimed the Enquirer was notified about inaccuracies in its stories and headlines before publication. Iain Calder, National Enquirer editor and president, wasn't in the office at the newspaper's Lantana Florida, headquarters, a receptionist said. Miss Taylor's publicist, Chen Sam, did not immediately return calls after business hours. In 1983, Miss Taylor acknowledged a 35-year addiction to sleeping pills and painkillers. She has been treated for alcohol and drug abuse.

Conan Doyle's robe auctioned

NOTTINGHAM, England (AP) — A bathrobe worn by Sherlock Holmes' creator, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, was sold for £1,000 (\$2,068). The century-old, calf-length garment of thick tweed in a light brown check pattern and with a tasseled collar was sent for sale by a collector and bought by an anonymous telephone bidder, said Vennett-Smith Auctions of Gotham near Nottingham. The dressing gown was described in a short story, The Man With the Twisted Lip, said auctioneer Trevor Vennett-Smith. He said Conan Doyle often wore it when writing and it later belonged to Sidney Paget, who used it as a model in six of his illustrations for stories about the fictional detective.

Woman gets £1m for operation error

LONDON (R) — A British woman who suffered severe brain damage during a routine operation to remove her wisdom teeth was awarded nearly £1 million (\$1.9 million) in compensation. Susan Hall, 23, suffered a loss of oxygen to the brain during the operation seven years ago at an English private hospital and now needs constant care. The high court awarded damages of £965,000 against the consultant anaesthetist in the operation, Bruce Pirie, in a case brought by Hall's relatives. The damages will be paid by a medical insurance fund. Hall's aunt, Janet Neal, said the operation had left her with bad vision, impaired speech and difficulty walking. Hall had been studying to become a billing secretary before going into hospital. "The biggest tragedy is that she has moments of awareness when she realises what has happened to her," Neal said.

Million-pound-note to go on sale

LONDON (R) — A £1-million note, printed just after World War II but no longer legal tender, is expected to attract rich collectors when it is auctioned in London next month. Although the note, used by the treasury as a record of the movement of money from the Marshall Aid Fund, cannot be spent, it is still expected to fetch up to £30,000 (\$36,500). The Marshall Aid Fund was set up by the United States after World War II to finance an economic recovery programme for European nations. "We've had a lot of inquiries about it. It should be an exciting sale," a Christie's spokeswoman said Tuesday. "We've made it fairly clear that it's no longer spendable and it has been cancelled... there's some attraction in owning a note which is so valuable." At least eight of the million-pound notes were printed as the one on sale bears the serial number D000008. Shortly after being printed all of them were destroyed except for numbers 7 and 8. Number 8 was issued on Aug. 30, 1948, and cancelled on Oct. 6. Number 7 is listed in the Guinness Book of Records as the highest denomination paper money in existence. It was sold privately in Australia in 1977 for £3,400 (\$15,800) at today's rate of exchange.

Philippine rebel soldiers throw bombs at U.S. plants

MANILA (R) — Suspected rebel soldiers, shifting their attacks to foreign targets in the Philippines, threw bombs at the Coca-Cola and Pepsi Cola bottling plants Wednesday and tried to bomb two foreign electronics firms, the military said.

"Their objective is the removal of the president through economic sabotage," Armed Forces Chief General Renato de Villa said in a television interview. He was referring to a spate of 33 bomb attacks that have hit Manila during the past six weeks.

The blasts at the two soft-drink companies early Wednesday morning damaged a warehouse and a gate but caused no casualties.

Pakistani court calls for return of provincial assembly

PESHAWAR (Agencies) — Ousted Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's political activists were jubilant Wednesday after the high court overturned last month's dissolution of one of Pakistan's four provincial assemblies.

"We have won the legal war and the judgment is in our favour," the former Chief Minister of North West Frontier Province (NWFP) Aftab Khan Sherpao told a news conference.

But the caretaker government immediately got a stay order from the Supreme Court preventing the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) recalling the NWFP assembly that it ruled until Aug. 6.

Within five minutes of the Peshawar court ruling, Supreme Court Justice Uzma Ali Shah barred the restoration of the provincial assembly until the appeal is decided, said Amna Piracha, a lawyer and a former member of Ms. Bhutto's government.

Soldiers reportedly surrounded the provincial assembly building in this dusty border city, congested with hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees who fled to Pakistan after a Soviet invasion of their nation 11 years earlier.

"They've sealed the assembly. No one is being allowed to go in,"

said Piracha, who had been in telephone contact with Ms. Bhutto's former law minister in Peshawar.

"I didn't think they could do this, it would look so bad," she said, referring to Ali Shah's stay order.

Ms. Bhutto, who was on the campaign trail in the heart of southern Sindh, was not immediately available for comment.

The caretaker government is expected to launch an immediate appeal in the Supreme Court against the order.

Wednesday's verdict will provide a big political boost to Bhutto and the beleaguered PPP leadership, who face numerous charges of power abuse during their 20 months-long rule.

Bhutto herself faces four charges before special courts and could be barred from contesting the Oct. 24 elections if convicted.

Outside the Peshawar court her supporters chanted slogans against President Ghulam Ishaq Khan for dismissing their leader last month, a strong cordon of security forces kept them away from the building.

Anticipating they would win their legal battle, the PPP had already collected the signatures of assembly deputies needed to recall the provincial legislature.

Italian writer, Alberto Moravia, dies at 82

ROME (R) — Alberto Moravia, Italy's best-known contemporary novelist, died Wednesday aged 82, his family said.

Relatives said he died early in the morning. His doctor said the writer probably had a stroke.

Moravia became Italy's best-known 20th century novelist by writing about women, sex and the moral foibles of middle class Roman society.

His international reputation was established in 1947 with La Romana (Woman of Rome), which chronicles the career of a Roman prostitute.

His doctor said Moravia had felt ill as he took his morning bath, and died shortly afterwards.

Moravia had undergone a routine medical check-up Monday which showed him to be in normal health.

A controversial figure throughout his life, Moravia wrote more than 20 books and was Italy's most widely-translated author.

Among his most famous works were the novels The Time Of Indifference, Boredom and The Conformist.

Moravia's most prolific years were in the 1940s and 1950s, and although he continued writing in his old age his later work received mixed reviews.

Moravia's autobiography is due to come out in October. The result of several hours of conversation and collaboration with an Italian journalist, it details his thoughts on subjects ranging from sex to existentialism.

The Vatican never approved of Moravia's work which for many years was placed on its "index" — the now-defunct list of books forbidden to Roman Catholics.

Controversy also dogged his private life.

In his seventies Moravia became active in politics and in 1984 was elected to the European Parliament with the backing of Italy's Communist Party.

U.S. to reduce troops in Europe by one-third

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The United States expects to reduce its 300,000 troops in Europe by a third over the next five years, the American ambassador to NATO said Wednesday.

"There are very important opportunities for reducing our forces and for restructuring them" in the changing Europe, William H. Taft IV told journalists at the end of a brief visit to neutral Sweden.

"We expect to see, within the next five years, a reduction of at least a third (of U.S. troops in Europe), from 300,000 to 200,000," Taft said. "If things go well, we could see further reductions."

He also said that other NATO countries are considering a U.S. request to send ground troops to join American, British, French and Turkish soldiers in the Gulf crisis region.

He did not name the countries considering the request. Other NATO countries are West Germany, Belgium, Italy, Greece, Denmark, Norway, Canada, Iceland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has said soldiers and airplanes from other nations would be welcome, even if the numbers were only symbolic, in the effort to force Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait, which it invaded Aug. 2.

Taft said all NATO countries except Iceland and Luxembourg have contributed military vessels to the international armada trying to blockade Iraq. He said West Germany had sent ships to the Mediterranean.

"We're happy with the positive responses... we would like to see the European allies do more," Taft said.

"We would not be happy if there's nothing more," he said. "But we haven't given up."

Taft said the United States supports the "development of European Defence capability" but foresaw no complete withdrawal of U.S. military forces from Europe.

He said no credible politician in the United States had proposed a smaller American presence in Europe than 80,000.

USSR retains vast military — Pentagon